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Japan

Takeshita Seeks New Start in PRC Ties

OW2208040988 Tokyo KYODO in English 0341 GMT
22 Aug 88

[By Hideharu Torii]

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita hopes his visit to China starting Thursday will mark a new starting point in bilateral relations toward the 21st century, leading to firm friendship between the two countries, government sources said.

Takeshita will make it clear that Japan welcomes China's reforms and its policy of openness and pledge to Chinese leaders that Japan will cooperate with its modernization efforts as much as possible, a Foreign Ministry official said in a background briefing for reporters.

It is one of Japan's most important foreign policy pillars to maintain and develop friendly and stable ties with China and the expansion of friendly and cooperative Sino-Japanese relations will contribute to peace and prosperity not only for Asia but also the world as a whole, the official said.

The prime minister will vow to extend 800 billion yen in loans to China in the third yen loan program, covering fiscal 1990-1995, the government sources said.

Japan provided 330.9 billion yen in loans to China between fiscal 1979 and 1983 and is extending 470 billion yen worth of loans from fiscal 1984 to 1989.

The prime minister will also pledge to extend a grant-in-aid of 1 billion yen to help preserve Buddhist cultural properties in Dunhuang, an ancient city on the former "Silk Road" in northwestern China, the sources said.

Takeshita will visit Dunhuang during his six-day visit to see cultural remains, becoming the first foreign leader to visit the city.

The prime minister will also call for projects to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Japan-China Peace and Friendship Treaty. The cost of the projects, about 10 billion yen, will be covered by Japan, the sources said.

Japan and China signed the treaty in Beijing on August 12, 1978, six years after the two countries restored diplomatic ties with a joint communique in which Japan recognized China and broke off relations with Taiwan.

Although bilateral relations have become closer, some political frictions have arisen, including problems over Japan's wartime actions and those concerning Taiwan, the official said.

The official also said China is concerned that Japan might become a major military power.

China's XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, while welcoming Takeshita's visit to China, said on August 14 that some problems have remained unresolved between the two countries since they concluded the treaty.

One such issue it cited concerned accounts in Japanese school textbooks playing down Japan's aggression before and during World War II.

It also referred to Japanese cabinet ministers' visits to Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine, which is dedicated to the war dead but also enshrines the remains of seven wartime leaders executed as Class-A war criminals.

The news agency also cited a Japanese court ruling in favor of Taiwan on the ownership of a Chinese student dormitory in the Japanese city of Kyoto and Japanese controls on high-tech exports to China.

In the case of the dormitory, Kokuryo, China accuses Japan of having created a "two Chinas" policy, violating the joint communique.

Takeshita will highly praise and welcome recent moves toward improving relations between China and Taiwan in a bid to dispel China's concern, Foreign Ministry sources said.

The prime minister will also tell Chinese leaders that Japan will relax regulations on exports to China of business computers.

Takeshita will sign a bilateral pact on the protection of investment which guarantees the same treatment for business activities of Japanese and Chinese firms in each other's country as those enjoyed by domestic firms.

China has been calling for greater Japanese investment and the pact aims at promoting such investment.

On international issues, Takeshita will express his hope that China will influence North Korea to promote dialogue with South Korea, the government sources said.

The prime minister will praise the recent expansion of economic and cultural exchanges between China and South Korea, the sources said.

On the Kampuchean issue, Takeshita hopes to exchange frank views with Chinese leaders and will make it clear that Japan is ready to send civilian personnel to monitor a cessation of fighting and to donate funds for U.N. peacekeeping forces, they said.

Ambassador to PRC Sees Better PRC-USSR Ties
*OW2208060888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0541 GMT
22 Aug 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Rapprochement between China and the Soviet Union will advance more quickly than generally expected, Japan's envoy to China predicted Monday.

Toshiji Nakajima ruled out the possibility of a dramatic normalization of Sino-Soviet relations, however.

Nakajima, who has returned home to prepare for Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's week-long visit to China slated to start Thursday, made the comments at a press conference held at the Foreign Ministry.

Nakajima said that bilateral trade between China and the Soviet Union has improved amid the recent thawing in East-West relations.

Relations between the two communist countries collapsed in the early 1960s, sparking skirmishes across their frontier.

Beijing has listed three major obstacles as blocking the normalization of relations with the Kremlin: Soviet troop concentrations along the border with China, Moscow's military occupation of Afghanistan and its backing of Vietnam's intervention in Kampuchea.

Nakajima predicted that China will take a new stance on global problems following the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan and fresh developments in Kampuchea.

Concerning the upcoming visit to China by Takeshita, which begins Thursday, Nakajima said the summit talks between Takeshita and top Chinese politicians, including senior leader Deng Xiaoping, are expected to build a stable basis for future Japan-China relations.

The envoy said the Chinese leadership appears determined to actively promote bilateral relations between China and Japan although it is sticking to political principles concerning historical recognition and the Taiwanese issue.

Youths To Attend Friendship Festival in PRC
*OW1908172788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0708 GMT
19 Aug 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 19 KYODO—A friendship festival to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Sino-Japanese peace and friendship treaty, and promote better relations between the nations' youths will open in Beijing at the end of August, sources said.

Some 600 Japanese youths from 15 organizations involved in sports, music and culture will participate in the first Sino-Japanese Youth Festival of Peace and Friendship, which is being sponsored by the Japanese Embassy in China and China's National Education Committee.

The major activities, including joint musical performances and friendship athletic games with Chinese counterparts from schools and related organizations, will run through August 26.

Some groups, such as basketball teams from Funabashi, Chiba Prefecture and Okazaki, Aichi Prefecture, will remain behind to continue interchanges with the local groups.

The festival will officially close on August 30, when the last of the groups return to Japan.

An assembly following a joint parade by the musical groups will be held next Friday, when 2,000 youths from both nations as well as Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who will be visiting at that time, are expected to attend.

The first of the teams will arrive in Tianjin via Beijing on Saturday. On Monday, some 130 youths will participate in all-female and all-male soccer games as well as music performances.

All teams will attend on August 25 a reception to be hosted by the Chinese National Youth Union.

The Sino-Japanese peace and friendship treaty was signed on August 12, 1978, by the two governments.

Shanghai Railway Compensation Offer Raised
*OW2108122288 Tokyo KYODO in English 1106 GMT
21 Aug 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 21 KYODO—A Chinese railway official indicated Sunday that compensation offered to the families of 26 Japanese high school students killed in a train crash near Shanghai in March will be increased.

Talks on the compensation had been deadlocked after Japanese negotiators asked for 20-25 million yen for each family. The Chinese originally offered 1.1 million yen.

The indication of the new offer came when Kong Lingran, vice bureau chief of the Shanghai Railways Bureau, and Isao Okamura, Japanese chief of the compensation negotiation group, met at the Japan-China Friendship Hall in Tokyo.

The two sides agreed that the Japanese and Chinese chief negotiators will hold their compensation talks in Shanghai in late September, followed by a third round of compensation talks during October 3-5.

Uno, ROK Foreign Minister Discuss Olympics

OW2208014388 Tokyo KYODO in English 0118 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, Aug. 22 KYODO—South Korea will "keep the door open" until September 3 for North Korea to apply for participation in the Seoul summer Olympic games though the prospect for the North's application is not bright, South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su told his Japanese counterpart Sosuke Uno on Sunday night.

The September 3 deadline, two weeks before the opening of the Olympics, is the final date for the North's entry because of practical considerations, including arrangements for sports matches and games, Choe said.

The two ministers had the talks aboard a plane from Islamabad to Karachi after they visited the Pakistani capital to express condolences over the death of Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

Uno and Choi agreed on the two countries' cooperation to ensure the success of the Seoul Olympics, Uno's aides said.

On relations between South Korea and China, Choe told Uno that bilateral trade is progressing despite the absence of diplomatic ties between Seoul and Beijing, the Japanese sources said.

Uno said that North Korean President Kim Il-song has conveyed his hope to improve relations with Japan through Kampuchea's Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who visited Tokyo earlier this month. Japan has no diplomatic relations with North Korea.

Regarding the parliamentarians' talks between North and South Korea, the South Korean foreign minister said his government at present favors preliminary talks between 25 National Assembly members from each of the two countries. But North Korea is saying that the parliamentarians's discussions should be also joined by delegates of other sectors of society, he told Uno.

Uno and Choe agreed to finalize the date for the next Japan-South Korea ministerial conference after the Seoul Olympics through working-level contacts, the Japanese sources said.

Kajiyama To Visit ROK on Games Security

OW2208045488 Tokyo KYODO in English 0408 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Japanese Home Affairs Minister Seiroku Kajiyama, who is also chairman of the National Public Safety Commission, will make a three-day visit to South Korea from Thursday for talks on security measures for the Seoul Olympic games, it was decided Monday.

He will meet President No Tae-u, Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae, Home Affairs Minister Yi Chun-ku, Pae Myong-in, director of the Agency for National Security Planning, and other South Korean officials.

Kajiyama will be accompanied by Jun Yoshino, councilor at the Secretariat of the Director General of the National Police Agency.

Ports, Airport Security Tightened

OW2008122388 Tokyo KYODO in English 1137 GMT
20 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 20 KYODO—Japanese police, customs, and airline authorities will launch very tight ground, air, and sea security throughout the country Monday to prevent terrorism and guerrilla attacks aimed against the Seoul Olympics which start on September 17.

The tightened security pinpointed at extremists plotting to sneak into Seoul via Japan will continue until the Olympic games end October 2, the authorities say.

A police force of 10,000 mobilized from regional headquarters and stations will guard foreign athletes now warming up in Japan in preparation for the Olympics, as well as diplomatic establishments and VIPs, the National Police Agency says.

Some 2,400 Olympians from 45 countries and territories are currently training in 26 of Japan's 47 prefectures, of whom 200 are expected to come to Tokyo between now and early September, the agency says.

Police guard will be especially tightened from Monday in Chiba Prefecture which will see the second largest number of foreign athletes after Tokyo, it says.

At Narita Airport in Chiba, passengers will have to undergo "body-touch" checks twice instead of once as at present before boarding flights bound for Seoul, with their luggage checked with X-ray and metal-detecting devices, according to airlines.

Similar measures will be taken at Osaka International Airport and nine regional airports, they say.

Immigration control is taking strict passport checks at the airports, and customs officials are ready to open parcels when they are suspicious.

Maritime safety personnel are to board every nonscheduled ferryboat plying between the South Korean port of Pusan and Nagoya and other Japanese seaports during the Olympics, according to the authorities.

JSP Urges Balanced Ties With Two Koreas

OW2008122288 Tokyo KYODO in English 0901 GMT
20 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 20 KYODO—A policy team of Japan's No. 1 opposition Japan Socialist Party has called for equidistant relations with South and North Korea.

An interim report made public by the JSP's Korea policy project team said the party should try to improve its ties with South Korea while maintaining long-standing friendly relations with North Korea.

The team was organized by the central executive committee to review the party's policy toward the Korean peninsula following South Korean President No Tae-u's peace initiative to the North.

The report, however, made no reference to the 1965 Japan-South Korea Basic Relations Treaty, which the party opposed, claiming it perpetuates division of the Korean peninsula.

The report stressed the need for the party to develop cooperative relations with South Korea to contribute to peace and stability in Northeast Asia.

In this connection, the report called for early realization of a visit to Seoul by party leader Takako Doi.

The report will be submitted to the central executive committee after it is formalized at the project team's meeting set for next Wednesday.

Talks With ROK To Discuss Knitwear Exports

OW1908114888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0736 GMT
19 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 19 KYODO—Japanese and South Korean knitwear industries will hold talks in Seoul over the flood of South Korean knitwear exports to Japan on August 29, industry sources said Friday.

The talks will follow government-level meetings held in Seoul late July, at which Japan failed to get South Korea's firm assurance of preventing a further flood of South Korean knitwears into Japan, the sources said.

The Japanese delegation, headed by Kengo Uematsu, a Standing Committee member of the Japan Textile Industry Federation, is expected to seek a detailed explanation of Seoul's voluntary restraint on knitwear exports and press South Korean makers to fully observe the restraint, the sources said.

South Korea announced its measures, effective July 1, including establishment of an export control system, monitoring of export prices and volume and the abolition of incentives for exports to Japan, they said.

The Japanese industry has complained that the measures have produced no visible effects and threatens to file dumping charges against some South Korean apparel makers, the sources said.

Kim Tae-chung Says No To Kidnap Inquiry

OW2208070188 Tokyo KYODO in English 0604 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung has declined to participate in a Japanese police inquiry into circumstances surrounding his 1973 abduction by South Korean secret agents here, police officials said Monday.

Kim, leader of the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), turned down a request from the National Police Agency's Security Bureau that he avail himself to questioning about the incident when he makes a brief stop-over in Tokyo Tuesday afternoon while en route from Manila to Seoul.

Police said Kim indicated through diplomatic channels that his tight schedule would not permit time to undergo questioning about the daring August 13, 1973 abduction from a Tokyo hotel carried out by agents of the former Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA).

The prominent dissident leader, who had challenged then President Park Chung-hui in a closely contested election, was spirited by boat out of Japan to South Korea, where he surfaced several days later and was placed under house arrest.

Kim had been in Tokyo to inaugurate the Korean Democratic National Council, an anti-Pak organization dedicated to lifting martial law and restoring democracy in South Korea.

This is the second time since Kim last came to Japan in February 1985 that he has scuttled an opportunity to answer to Japanese police inquiries about the kidnapping.

The PPD, the largest opposition party, earlier this month issued a statement calling on the Japanese and South Korean Governments to release as yet unpublicized details about the incident.

The PPD's statement accused Japanese authorities of abandoning their investigation after the South Korean Government applied political pressure.

Japanese police officials said, however, that the Security Bureau had reopened its investigation in August 1983, and has been waiting for an opportunity to question Kim.

Kim will arrive in Japan after a four-day stay in the Philippines from August 19-23, where he met President Corazon Aquino and parliamentary leaders.

RDP's Kim Yong-sam Continues 7-Day Visit

Proposes Intra-Regional Society

SK1908005188 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
19 Aug 88 p 2

[By correspondent Chong Hun]

[Text] Tokyo—Kim Yong-sam, President of the Reunification Democratic Party, has proposed the formation of a consultative committee for parliamentarians in Northeast Asia to promote intra-regional peace and exchanges.

Speaking at the Foreign Correspondents Club here Thursday, Kim said the committee will encompass South Korea, North Korea, the United States, Soviet Union, Japan and China.

"A great international society in the Northeast Asia region will be created if the member countries make the joint effort to promote exchanges in economic, academic, cultural, sports and tourism fields, Kim said.

Kim arrived here Wednesday for a seven-day visit at the invitation of the Foreign Correspondents Club.

He stressed that, if his proposal is realized, the Northeast Asian region will be a forum for international reconciliation and the Korean peninsula will be transformed from a symbol of war and tension into one of peace.

Referring to peaceful unification of the divided Korean peninsula, Kim claimed that the two sides should take such steps as restoration of mutual confidence, full-scale exchange, agreement on disarmament, signing of non-aggression and peace pact for ultimate unification.

Kim set out three preconditions for ultimate unification of the Korean Peninsula—completion of internal reform both in the South and the North, improvement of the Seoul-Pyongyang relationship and betterment of the international situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula.

He called on Pyongyang to accommodate Seoul's proposal for the promotion of exchanges in economic, social and cultural fields.

To Work for Doi Visit

OW2208105988 Tokyo KYODO in English 0928 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—South Korean opposition leader Kim Yong-sam told Japan Socialist Party chairwoman Takako Doi on Monday that he will do all he can to enable Doi to visit Seoul as early as possible.

The president of the Reunification Democratic Party made the offer to the leader of Japan's largest opposition party during a meeting which lasted to 100 minutes at the JSP's head office, JSP officials said in a briefing.

Another South Korean opposition politician, Kim Chong-pil, quoting a message from South Korean Foreign Minister Choi Kwang-su, assured Doi here on August 13 that South Korea would accept her visit to Seoul. At that time Kim Chong-pil extended an invitation for Doi [to] visit South Korea at the earliest possible opportunity.

Kim Yong-sam, however, called on the JSP to deepen its understanding of South Korea and criticized it as being completely pro-Pyongyang, the officials said.

Kim, who has been here on a week-long visit since last Wednesday, told Doi that he also hopes former JSP leader Masashi Ishibashi will also be able to visit Seoul.

Kim was quoted as saying that he invited then JSP Chairman Ishibashi to visit South Korea in 1985 but that he was refused an entry visa by the government of then President Chon Tu-hwan.

The officials quoted Kim as saying that visit by Ishibashi to Seoul could help pave the way for a similar sojourn by Doi.

Issei Inoue, director general of the JSP International Bureau who flanked Doi at the meeting, briefed Kim about the party's efforts to gain an accurate understanding of South Korea. Inoue told Kim that the JSP has established a task force to review its policy toward South Korea.

The Japan Socialist Party has maintained close relations with North Korea but was long critical of South Korea, which it said was under de facto military rule.

The party, however, changed its stance in the wake of a peaceful transition of power from Chon Tu-hwan to No Tae-u as president last February.

The JSP declared at that time that it will promote exchanges with South Korea. Doi has since repeatedly expressed hope of visiting South Korea this year.

Meets Prime Minister Takeshita

OW2208035688 Tokyo KYODO in English 0233 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Kim Yong-sam, leader of South Korea's No. 2 opposition party, Monday called on Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to support Kim's proposal for establishment of a Northeast Asian parliamentary conference, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The prime minister told Kim, president of the Reunification Democratic Party, that he would consider Kim's idea, depending on which country takes the initiative in supporting the proposal.

Kim last week in Tokyo proposed the establishment of a Northeast Asian parliamentary conference to be comprised of six states—the United States, the Soviet Union, North and South Korea, China and Japan—which would deal with issues of peace among the members.

During a 15-minute meeting with the prime minister at the Diet, Kim thanked Takeshita for Japan's measures in support of the security of the Seoul Olympics, the official said.

The prime minister was quoted as saying it was only natural for Japan to cooperate on the Olympics.

Kim said his party hopes to establish relations with Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party and opposition parties.

The South Korean opposition party leader also urged Takeshita to take measures to improve the legal status of Korean residents in Japan.

Kim arrived in Tokyo last Wednesday on a weeklong visit to exchange views with Japanese political leaders.

Kim later met separately with two senior officers of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Shintaro Abe and Michio Watanabe.

Abe, LDP secretary general, and Watanabe, chairman of the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council, both voiced their support for Kim's call to establish a Northeast Asian parliamentary conference, LDP officials said.

Abe and Watanabe, however, urged Kim to make efforts to reach consensus first among ruling and opposition parties in South Korea, the officials said.

The LDP secretary general promised to make efforts to invite Korean residents in Sakhalin to Japan and to provide medical services for Korean hibakusha or atom-bomb victims, the officials said.

Abe told Kim that the Japanese Government will incorporate the necessary costs in the fiscal 1989 budget.

There are an estimated 30,000 Koreans on Sakhalin Island and about 20,000 hibakusha in South Korea.

Government Seeks Repatriation for Sakhalin Koreans
OW2008120588 Tokyo KYODO in English 1022 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 20 KYODO—The government moved Saturday to work on the Soviet Union to permit the repatriation of South Koreans living in Sakhalin.

Government officials said a senior Foreign Ministry official will be sent to Moscow in the middle of September to negotiate the long-standing issue with Soviet officials.

The officials said the government will also propose to the Soviet Union working-level negotiations on the matter.

About 35,000 Koreans lived in Sakhalin when the Soviets regained control over the island at the end of World War II.

An estimated 1,000 of them are South Korean in origin longing for repatriation to their homeland. They are all stateless as they have refused to take Soviet or North Korean citizenship.

The absence of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and South Korea made it difficult for those Koreans to return home.

Japan requested during the Toronto summit of seven major industrial democracies in June, and the United States responded by taking up the issue at a U.S.-Soviet working-level forum on human rights.

The government officials said Moscow is studying a Japanese proposal made in late July for creation of a bilateral working-level forum on the question of Korean residents in Sakhalin.

Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno intends to discuss the matter in detail with his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, when the two meet in New York during the United Nations General Assembly session opening in late September.

The government also plans to seek a fund of about 3.5 million yen in the next fiscal budget to facilitate reunion in Tokyo of the Korean residents in Sakhalin with their kin.

It hopes to bring the South Koreans to Tokyo at an annual rate of 100 over a 5-year period for reunion with their relatives, if the Soviet authorities agree, the officials said.

Finance Ministry Announces Trade Surplus
OW2208080288 Tokyo KYODO in English 0653 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Japan had a 1,095.8 million dollar trade surplus on a customs clearance basis in the first 10 days of this month compared with a 1,778.2 million dollar surplus a year before, the Finance Ministry announced Monday.

Exports totaled 6,802.7 million dollars on a FOB [free on board] basis, up 22.6 percent from a year earlier, and imports 5,706.9 million dollars on a CIF [cost insurance freight] basis, up 51.7 percent.

North Korea

North Side Reports Parliamentary Talks

Report on 1st Round of Talks

SK1908233188 *Pyongyang Domestic Service*
in Korean 2100 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Excerpts] A meeting between delegates from the North and the South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary conference was held in Tongilgak, a building on our side at Panmunjom, at 1000 on the morning of 19 August. [passage omitted]

Noting the preposterousness of the South side's remark that although the issue on nonaggression may be adopted as an agenda item, it should be dealt with only in the manner of urging the authorities on, the head of our side stressed that because the issue of nonaggression is a pressing issue related to the nation's destiny and is an important issue concerning the nation, it should be a task for the Assembly to handle with top priority.

He then pointed out that the Assembly should as a matter of right resolve this issue and that this is the demand and the supreme order of all fellow countrymen.

Commenting on the assertions of the South side that the nonaggression issue should be assigned to the administration, he said that would be the case with an administration-level treaty with another country but that the issue of a declaration of nonaggression we put forth is a vital and principled preferential issue designed to realize the foundation for recovering trust and providing national unity and reunification within the nation itself.

He stressed that we should put to the forefront and discuss the common interest of the nation transcending the differences in ideologies, political views, and systems with the correct will and position to achieve reunification. If one claims that one's own legal system is the absolute system, no question can be resolved.

In defiance of our side's persuasive logic and calls, the South side merely adhered to its unjust assertions. Thus, the meeting on this day failed to reach an agreement on anything.

They decided to hold another meeting at 1000 on the morning of 20 August.

Following the meeting, the head of our side's delegation held a news conference.

2d Round of Talks Opens

SK2008020688 *Pyongyang Domestic Service*
in Korean 0115 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The second meeting of parliamentarians of the North and South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting has begun on the South's side of Panmunjom.

The second meeting of parliamentarians of the North and South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting began at 1000 [0100 GMT] this morning on the South's side of Panmunjom. Today's meeting was held because no agreement was reached in discussing working procedures for convening a joint parliamentary meeting yesterday because the South side expressed an unjust stand.

In yesterday's meeting, our side presented a draft letter of agreement on working procedures for convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and held an earnest and sincere discussion. In this way, our side expressed the hope and expectation that the first meeting of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting would be convened on 26 August in Pyongyang without fail. However, the South side opposed our side's proposal for holding a joint parliamentary meeting in which representatives of all parties and organizations and personages of all walks of life would attend, and proposed holding a narrow-range meeting of parliamentary representatives in which a few people would attend. In discussing the agenda issue, it proposed making recommendations to the authorities over the issue of nonaggression, the most central issue, and insisted on the unjust demand of including various issues in the agenda, thus making matters complicated. Consequently, because the issues of the type of the talks and the agenda, which are neither complicated nor difficult in discussing working procedures for convening a joint parliamentary meeting, faced difficulty and because, as a result, no agreement was reached, the second meeting of the delegates of both sides will be held today.

Numerous reporters from home and abroad gathered to cover the meeting between the two sides. At 1000 sharp, our side's delegation head Chon Kum-chol and delegates An Pyong-chu, Yi Tong-chol, Yi Chu-ung, and Pak Mun-chan entered the meeting room on the South's side.

Our side's delegates and those of the South side greeted each other and are talking with each other.

The meeting continues.

South Urged To Accept Proposal

SK2008050088 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0443 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Panmunjom August 20 (KCNA)—Chon Kum-chol, head of our side, speaking at the second meeting between parliamentarians of the North and the South for

the preparation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting, which is going on in the portion of the South side at Panmunjom, urged the South side to withdraw its unjustifiable allegations and agree to our proposal for the inter-parliamentary meeting.

In view of the urgency of the convocation of the North-South joint parliamentary meeting within August, if the debate on the working procedures for its preparations is delayed day after day, it will disappoint the entire fellow countrymen who are now following the Panmunjom meeting, he said.

Referring to the form of the joint meeting, he stated that the joint meeting, as a positive form of the kind involving the entire parliamentarians, is justified in that politicians of parliaments of the two sides may freely contact and exchange within its framework.

We consider that to let as many personages as possible participate in the joint parliamentary meeting and give fullest scope to democracy will be a most timely, powerful, realistic and efficient way of settling the question of reunifying our country, a divided country.

He suggested that if the South side had any reason for failing to approach the reasonable joint meeting, it should mention it open-heartedly so that measures could be jointly discussed to overcome it.

Referring to the agenda items of the joint meeting, Chon Kum-chol said that if the pending issues such as non-aggression and the Olympics are successfully solved, the North-South relations would be developed on a new basis in conformity with the nation's common interests and desire for reunification and broad ways of exchange of visits and materials and cooperation between the North and the South would be opened.

As for the proposal of the South side on discussing the issue of recommending the convocation of North-South summit talks, it is of no reasonableness and feasibility, he said.

Noting that there is too little time and the situation of the country is too rigorous to sit idle, insisting on one's own assertion under the grim reality of the country's division, Chon Kum-chol urged the South side to accept our reasonable proposal concerning the agenda items of the joint meeting.

North's Chon Speaks on 2d Day

SK2008043188 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0215 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Our side's delegation head Chon Kum-chol spoke at the 2d meeting of representatives of the North and South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting, which is taking place in Panmunjom. He said as follows:

Today, amid the great expectations and concern of the people at home and abroad, we have gotten together for the second time to discuss working procedures for preparing for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting. As the South side also recognizes, the Korean peninsula has become a place where the situation is the tensest and most acute in the world because military confrontation along the Military Demarcation Line has continued for approximately 40 years. I think it needless to extensively mention that the politicians of the North and South have the important duty of bringing an end to such tension and confrontation between the North and South at the earliest date and of reversing North-South relations toward a direction of alleviation and reconciliation. On the basis of this recognition, we proposed convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting in an effort to discuss and resolve, for the common interests of the nation and in conformity with an earnest desire for reunification, the nonaggression issue and the Olympic issue, whose resolution cannot be delayed even for a moment in the relations between the North and South. As a result, the first meeting took place yesterday to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting, and opinions were exchanged in this meeting. However, even though we exchanged opinions for no fewer than almost three hours, we could not reach an agreement even on the type of talks, a basic issue, and, thus, could not give good news to the fellow countrymen watching this meeting.

Frankly speaking, judging from the fact that the South side accepted our proposal for convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting, which also contained concrete agenda items that will be discussed in this meeting, we believed that discussion on working procedures could be sufficiently concluded in only a single meeting. On the basis of this stand, we presented a draft letter of agreement that contains concrete working procedures for convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and procedures for operating this meeting. However, as was shown in the result of yesterday's meeting, an unexpected obstacle was created and discussion on working procedures could not but continue over to today. In view of the urgency with which a North-South joint parliamentary meeting must be convened by August, if discussion on working procedures for preparing for this meeting encounters daily delays in this way, this will only disappoint all the fellow countrymen, who are watching this meeting.

We think it very regrettable that, forgetting the very fact that it had accepted the proposal for convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and had come to a meeting to discuss working procedures for this meeting, the South side, in yesterday's meeting, rejected the type of joint meeting; obstinately proposed convening passive talks between representatives, and presented various issues in such a complicated way as to include myriad agenda items for discussion, thus making it difficult to immediately conclude discussion on working procedures.

Dialogue cannot take place alone but with the opposing side. Therefore, if one side does not accept important issues—over which an agreement can easily be reached—under one pretext or another, dialogue will only be delayed indefinitely. Only regarding the question of format [of talks], is there no room to refute the notion that a joint meeting, which we demand, is the best among the types of negotiations designed to resolve important matters of the nation. Nevertheless, saying that because this format is complicated, efficiency cannot be improved, the South side blindly opposes it.

The statement that the convening of a joint meeting where all the parliamentarians attend would be complicated may serve as an excuse for rejecting dialogue between parliamentarians, rather than as an excuse for rejecting the format itself. At this time when even young students, our sons and daughters, are rising up to bring an end to enmity and confrontation between the North and South and to cultivate a road for national reconciliation and unity, if politicians in parliaments who are responsible for state affairs say that they cannot do what they must do under the pretext that it is complicated, I think, this will hurt their honor before the fellow countrymen as politicians.

To help your side accept the form of a joint meeting, I would like to again explain, in some aspects, why a joint meeting is better than talks between representatives. Talks between representatives are insufficient to correctly reflect the public will because representatives must be again selected among the representatives of the people. However, a joint meeting is an irrefutably just kind by which the will of the entire nation can be more correctly reflected, because those who represent the public will personally attend this meeting. If talks between representatives are a passive type by which a few people get together and come and go, a joint meeting is a positive type by which all the parliamentarians get together and come and go. Therefore, a joint meeting is a just one within whose framework politicians in parliaments of both sides can freely contact each other and can exchange views. The South side, which says it thinks exchanges between the North and South more important than the nonaggression issue, has no reason to oppose a joint meeting, also in view of the fact that it is a type by which exchanges of politicians can be realized. Judging from the fact that the South side persistently opposes a joint parliamentary meeting, we cannot but be suspicious of whether the South side sincerely proposed effecting exchanges, even while hesitating to effect meetings between politicians in parliaments and mutual visits, which have been prepared in spirit and at working levels. If the South side proposed effecting exchanges out of sincerity, it must accept the proposal for a joint meeting from this sense.

We can say that a joint meeting is a better format than talks between representatives because talks between representatives may contradict the demand of an absolute majority of parliamentarians who desire to attend the

talks and because a joint meeting can fulfill the demands of the parliamentarians. The South side states that the smaller the number of people, the better the chance to find a solution. This is reverse logic designed to reject a joint meeting. Based on the confidence that if the will of the popular masses is collected and if their efforts are sought, there is nothing that cannot be done, we recognize that having as many people as possible attend a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and, thus, fostering democracy to the utmost is the most appropriate, powerful, realistic, and effective solution to the issue of reunifying our divided country. Out of this view, we think that we must have even figures of parties, organizations, and all other walks of life attend a North-South joint parliamentary meeting.

The participation of political parties, public organizations, and figures from all walks of life is by no means a negligible method of embracing the will of the class and circles that have no seats in the Assembly.

If the South side has any reason for not being able to respond to the joint conference which is reasonable in every aspect, I propose that the South side frankly put forth the reason and jointly discuss the steps to overcome such a situation.

A great difference in the agenda issue was revealed between the two sides at the first meeting yesterday. At yesterday's meeting, we put forward the issue of publishing a North-South joint declaration on nonaggression and the issue of the 24th Olympics as the agenda for the North-South joint parliamentary conference.

Our proposal that the issue of publishing a joint declaration on nonaggression be discussed and resolved at the North-South joint parliamentary conference is entirely just, not only in view of the aspirations of our people but also of the mission and functions of our assemblies.

If a joint declaration on nonaggression is announced at the assembly, the legislative organ representing the will of the people, this will undoubtedly open up a new epochal phase for national reconciliation and unity and for peace and peaceful reunification of the nation by ending distrust and confrontation between the North and the South.

It is an important task laid before the politicians of the North and the South to resolve the issue of the 24th Olympics, the opening of which is near at hand, in conformity with the common interest of the nation and aspirations for reunification.

Such a worldwide sports festival as the Olympics should be held so as to benefit the reunification and to contribute to national reconciliation and unity, not to division. To do this, the North and the South should host the Olympics jointly as one people.

However, your side, regrettably enough, ignored the basic agenda items we put forth even while presenting no less than five agenda items in your keynote speech.

Your side is attempting to exclude from the agenda the issue of cohosting the Olympics, which we called for. In fact, the South side ignored the agenda on nonaggression while pretending that it was accepting this issue.

What we call for is to discuss and resolve the issue of publishing a joint declaration on nonaggression between the North and the South at the North-South joint parliamentary conference. We consider that the basis of such discussion is the draft of the joint North-South declaration on nonaggression that we put forward.

However, your side refused our proposal and insisted on adopting as an agenda item such an issue as one recommending the conclusion of a nonaggression agreement between the authorities of the North and the South. Merely with a letter of recommendation that has no contents or binding force, pushing aside the publishing of a joint declaration on nonaggression between the North and the South that reflected the aspirations of all fellow countrymen for the reunification, the assembly cannot exert any influence over the administration authorities.

As indicated in the draft of a joint declaration of nonaggression between the North and the South that we advanced, in order to achieve genuine detente, peace, and reunification in our country, a North-South joint parliamentary conference should be held and the question of announcing nonaggression should be resolved there.

And speaking of your side's overture on the question of promoting personnel and material exchanges and cooperation, the question of urging the resumption of Red Cross and economic talks, and the question of recommending that summit talks be adopted as agenda items, this cannot but be a harmful assertion that not only decentralizes the people's attention but also obscures the key point in discussing the questions at hand.

As we emphasized yesterday, if a North-South joint parliamentary conference is arranged at the earliest possible date and, thus, if the pending issues are successfully resolved, including the issues of nonaggression and the Olympics, not only will North-South relations be developed on a new foundation in conformity with the common interests of the nation and its desire for reunification, but also the road of wide-ranging personnel and material exchanges and cooperation between the North and the South will be opened. And speaking of the South side's overture that the question of recommending the convocation of North-South summit talks be discussed, it is an unreasonable and unrealistic assertion.

We have also put forth a proposal for talks at the highest level on many occasions in the past; however, it has not been realized. To hold talks at the highest level between the North and the South and to have them successfully implemented, it is important first to arrange the circumstances under which such talks can be convened.

Furthermore, we think that your side's overture on the question of having the parliaments recommend discussing the convocation of North-South summit talks does not accord with the mission of the parliaments and is not fit for their status.

All the brethren and people of the world are now watching with deep interest and expectation the Panmunjom meeting to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary conference. The people at home and abroad urgently want the current meeting to achieve a good agreement at any cost so as to alleviate confrontation and tension, thereby having the parliaments of both sides take a great step in opening the path of peaceful reunification.

The time is so pressing and the situation of the country is so acute that we cannot sit idly, making arguments, while persisting only in one's own assertion in the face of the gruesome reality of national division.

We once again urge the South side to withdraw its unwarranted assertion and to willingly accept our proposal for a joint parliamentary conference.

Also, as for the question of agenda items to be discussed at the joint conference, the South side should accept our proposal, which is reasonable to all intents and purposes. By so doing, we should not repeat again the unsavory precedent we had in 1985 and should successfully conclude today's meeting in conformity with the detente-oriented trend of the situation surrounding us this year, the year marking the 43d anniversary of national liberation. Thus, we should inform the people at home and abroad of happy news concerning the convocation of a historic North-South joint parliamentary conference.

2d Day of Talks Reviewed

SK2008113088 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0800 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The second meeting of delegates of the North and the South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary conference was held today in the South side's area in Panmunjom. A meeting was held again today because the South side, which had responded to our initiative with regard to the convocation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting, caused a failure to reach agreement on the question of working procedures, which is not complicated or difficult. They did this by creating artificial obstacles to the discussions of problems from the beginning of the first meeting on 19 August, reversing its previous stand.

At the first meeting, the South side not only opposed the adoption of a joint meeting as the form of talks between parliaments of the North and the South, but also persisted in deciding that it should be a meeting with only a limited number of representatives attending, while opposing the participation in it by representatives of political parties and public organizations and figures from all walks of life.

As for the question of agenda items, while insisting on including the question of nonaggression in the agenda items, the South side opposed announcing a joint declaration on nonaggression. Instead, the South side insisted that it should be dealt with only to the extent that the question of nonaggression merely be recommended to the authorities.

Numerous domestic and foreign reporters gathered in Panmunjom again today to cover news reports on the second meeting of both sides. Paying deep attention to the entirely different stand on and attitude toward the meeting between the North and the South, these reporters said that the success of today's meeting would depend on the South side's attitude.

Attending the meeting from our side was Chon Kum-chol, head of our delegation, and delegates An Pyong-su, Yi Tong-chol, Yi Chu-ung, and Pak Mun-chan, who are SPA deputies, and from the South side by five delegates. Our side's delegates exchanged greetings and conversed with the South side's delegates in the South side's area, the venue of the meeting.

The head of our side said: (?Sixteen) years ago I attended a meeting in the South side's area in Panmunjom. I still see the same Military Demarcation Line that I saw at that time. So, I cannot but think that there has been no change at all since then.

He then said: Politicians in the North and the South should pool their strength this time and without fail eliminate the Military Demarcation Line that is blocking the North and the South, so that all the brethren in the North and the South can freely make mutual visits with each other.

Following this, the meeting began to discuss the basic question. At today's meeting, the South side still did not show any change in the basic content of the form of and agenda items for the talks and instead tried to act as if it were making concessions by changing some phrases and expressions. However, when our delegates raised a couple of questions, the South side's true aim was immediately laid bare.

The South side did not show any change in the form of talks and stubbornly persisted in the holding of a parliamentary meeting with only a limited number of parliamentarians attending. As for the agenda items, the South

side also gave a vague and equivocal explanation on this question, saying that the question may be discussed at the full-dress meeting. Thus, the South side created an obstacle to the meeting.

Chon Kum-chol, head of our side's delegation, spoke at the meeting. He expressed regret that the South side, at the first meeting on 19 August, opposed adopting the form of a joint meeting and instead insisted on holding passive talks of representatives and presented various, complicated issues there. This made it impossible to rapidly conclude the discussion of working procedures. The South side forgot that just by responding to the proposal for convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting it has come to a meeting to discuss working procedures for the joint parliamentary meetings.

As to the form of the talks, he noted the fact that the South side took a position of blindly opposing the form of a joint meeting, which we advocate, on the grounds that it cannot enhance the efficiency because it is complicated. This is despite the fact that it is unquestionably the best form of negotiation to solve the important matters for the nation. In addition, he stated:

The assertion that a joint meeting in which all parliamentarians participate is a complicated form of talks can be an excuse for denying the dialogue between the parliamentarians, but it cannot be an excuse for denying the form itself. Even if we assume a joint meeting is complicated, if the parliamentarians reject it on the grounds that it is complicated because it is intended to solve the important matters connected with the destiny and vital interests of the nation, it should be regarded as nothing less than avoiding the mission and responsibility of a politician.

At this time, when our sons and daughters, including young students, have launched the cause of ending hostility and confrontation between the North and the South and of pioneering the road to national reconciliation and unity, if the parliamentary politicians who are responsible for state affairs say that they cannot do what should be done on the pretext that it is complicated, I think it is disgraceful for them before the fellow countrymen as a politician.

The head of our side's delegation noted that it is reverse logic aimed at rejecting a joint meeting for the South side to say that the fewer the number of participants, the more a solution is possible, and continued:

Based on my conviction that there is nothing impossible if we integrate the will of the popular masses and depend on their strength, we admit that it will be the most proper, effective, realistic, and efficient method of solving the issue of reunifying our divided country if the greatest possible number of people participate in the North-South joint parliamentary meeting and demonstrate the utmost democracy. From this standpoint, we think that representatives of political parties and public

organizations and figures from all walks of life should also participate in the North-South joint parliamentary meeting. Their participation is essential to integrating the will of those not sharing parliamentary seats.

Then the head of our side's delegation proposed that if the South side has some other reason that makes it unable to agree to a joint meeting, which is reasonable in all respects, it should confide it and jointly discuss a measure to overcome it.

Chon Kum-chol, the head of our delegation, then reminded the South side that at the first round of meetings on 19 August, our side put forward the issue of announcing a joint declaration for nonaggression between the North and the South and that of the 24th Olympic games as agenda items for the North-South joint parliamentary meeting, and noted:

Our proposal to discuss and solve the issue of announcing a joint declaration for nonaggression at the North-South joint parliamentary meeting is totally just in view of the yearning of our people and the mission and function of our parliaments. If a joint declaration for nonaggression is announced by the parliament, which represents the will of the people, it will undoubtedly open a new epochal phase for ending distrust and confrontation between the North and the South, for national reconciliation and unity, and for peace and the peaceful reunification of the country.

Solving the issue of the soon-to-open 24th Olympic games in conformity with the common national interests and the yearning for reunification is an important task set for the politicians of the North and the South. To hold a worldwide sports festival in Korea such as the Olympics, we should make it help to achieve reunification rather than division and make it contribute to national reconciliation and unity. For this purpose, the 24th Olympic games should be cohosted by the North and the South as one nation. However, in its keynote speech on the agenda, regrettably the South side turned away from nearly all the basic agenda items we put forth, while putting forward as many as five agenda items.

The head of our side stressed that, as shown by the draft of a joint declaration of nonaggression between the North and the South, in order to achieve genuine detente, peace, and reunification in our country it is imperative that a North-South joint parliamentary meeting be convened and that the question of announcing a joint declaration of nonaggression there be resolved without fail. He also indicated that, nevertheless, the South side's insistence on including as agenda items the question of promoting personnel and material exchanges and cooperation, the question of urging the resumption of Red Cross and economic talks, and the question of recommending summit talks cannot but be a harmful assertion that not only decentralizes the people's attention but also obscures the key point in discussing the questions at hand.

Speaking of the South side's overture of discussing the question of recommending the convocation of North-South summit talks, he said that this is an unreasonable and unrealistic overture. He recalled that we have put forward a proposal for talks at the highest level on many occasions in the past; however, it has not been realized.

He stressed that in order to hold talks at the highest level between the North and the South and to have them successfully implemented, it is important first to arrange the circumstances under which such talks can be convened, and said that the South sides' overture on discussing the question of the parliaments recommending the convocation of North-South summit talks does not accord with the mission of the parliaments and is not fit for their status.

Saying that the time is so pressing and the situation in the country is so acute that we cannot sit idly, making arguments, while persisting only in one's own assertion on the face of the gruesome reality of national division, Chon Kum-chol, head of our delegation, repeatedly urged the South side to withdraw its unwarranted assertion and to willingly accept our proposal for convening a joint meeting.

The South side, which failed to find the proper words to refute the logical statements of the head of our side, repeatedly talked baloney about complexity and low effectiveness, while unconditionally opposing the convening of a joint parliamentary meeting.

To this, the head of our side said that the question of achieving the peace of the North and the South and their peaceful reunification is not a problem for the authorities and the parliaments but a problem for the entire nation and that the most reasonable way to resolve the question is precisely by convening a joint parliamentary meeting that can pool the will of all of the people. He then repeatedly urged the South side to mention if there is any reason or situation in which it cannot convene a joint parliamentary meeting.

In particular, in response to the frivolous remarks by the head of the South side's delegation that it is impossible to convene a joint parliamentary meeting, the head of our side's delegation indicated that such remarks are an irresponsible and [word indistinct] act for a politician and recalled that the president of the PPD had clarified his party's stand that it is desirable to convene a joint parliamentary meeting.

The head of our side's delegation, saying that we are ready to make concessions as to the question of the agenda items for the smooth progress of the meeting, again raised the following three items for the agenda.

First, the question of announcing a joint declaration of nonaggression; second, the question of the South side inviting our side to the 24th Olympic Games and the question of cohosting the Olympic games in the North

and the South; and third, the question of the realization of multifaceted cooperation and exchanges between the North and the South. Putting forth such an amendment, our side proposed to deal with the Olympic issue as an urgent agenda item in view of its urgency.

However, the South side suddenly insisted on its intention to singlehandedly host the Olympics in one half of the country, saying that it is impossible to cohost the games.

At this time, the head of our side's delegation asked again the South side: On cohosting the Olympics or hosting them singlehandedly, which would be favorable for achieving national reconciliation and unity and for expediting national reunification?

In this regard, the head of the South side's delegation said that cohosting of the Olympics would be more favorable, thus admitting the superiority of cohosting the Olympics. At that time, the South side's delegates, assuming an attitude of correcting the remarks by the head of their delegation, who admitted the superiority of cohosting of the games, unanimously said that the question of cohosting of the Olympics cannot be resolved at all.

To this, the head of our side's delegation said that the South side's rejection of cohosting the Olympics meant a renunciation of the agenda item on the Olympics and that it is a deception of us and a mockery of world public opinion.

Embarrassed by this, the South side held an emergency meeting and proposed that the question of the Olympics be discussed at a joint parliamentary meeting. Thus, they made a far-fetched assertion that is against reason.

Our side sternly rejected such an unwarranted attitude of the South side, branding it a trick designed to create artificial obstacles to the meeting and, thus, to avoid a joint parliamentary meeting. Our side then urged the South side to respond to concluding the discussions of working procedures today if it does not intend to delay the convocation of a North-South parliamentary meeting.

Despite of our tolerance and concessions, no agreement was reached at today's meeting because of the South side's unjust stance and attitude.

It was agreed to have the next meeting at 1000 [0100 GMT] on 22 August at Tongilgak in our side.

After the meeting, the head of our side's delegation had an interview with reporters.

3d Round of Talks Open

SK2208050888 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0451 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Panmunjom August 22 (KCNA)—The third round of the meeting of delegates of the North and the South for the preparation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting opened at "Tongilgak," the building of our side at Panmunjom, at ten this morning.

The third round of the meeting had to be arranged because the South side, which had agreed to our proposal for the convocation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting, reversed its previous position and proceeded to deliberately create difficulties in the way of the debate on the problems at the second round as it did at the first round, thus making it impossible to reach an agreement on the problem of working procedures.

At the second round held on August 20, our side newly put forward with magnanimity three items of agenda taking into account the insistence of the South side, with a view to concluding the meeting of delegates of the North and the South and opening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting at an early date.

At the same time, our side suggested that the Olympic problem be taken as an urgent item, the time being short.

The South side, however, categorically objected to our fair proposal related to the convocation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and openly revealed its intention to use the Olympics for the sake of national division, not reunification, claiming that the joint holding of the Olympics is impossible, and thus blocked the progress of the debate on problems.

Home and foreign reporters came to "Tongilgak" to cover the meeting today.

Paying deep attention to the different positions and attitudes of the North and the South toward the meeting, they said that the progress and success of the meeting entirely depended on the attitude of the South side.

Present at the meeting were five delegates on each side.

The delegates of our side received, exchanged greetings and had a talk with the delegates of the South side at the "Tongilgak."

The meeting continues.

Delegate Speaks at 3d Meeting

SK2208044188 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0221 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The third meeting between the delegates of the North and South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting is continuing at our Tongilgak in the area of our side in Panmunjom.

At the meeting, Chon Kum-chol, head of the delegates of our side, spoke first.

He noted as follows: Today's meeting is our third round meeting. At this moment, as we have gathered together three consecutive [as heard] times, we should, I think, be again mindful of the significance of our mission for the nation.

In fact, as we were coming for the first round meeting with the South side, we expected discussions would end after only one single meeting, and preparations would be under way by now for the first round North-South joint parliamentary meeting, under the circumstances where a unanimity of views was reached in principle through the letters sent and received between the two sides on holding a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and discussing the questions of nonaggression and Olympics at the meeting.

Nonetheless, as is shown by reality, our views were unexpectedly in disagreement even on the form of the meeting, and the third round meeting had to be held as we now see. We cannot but regret this very much.

Chon Kum-chol, head of our delegates, said that, nevertheless, we have not abandoned our hope. He went on to add: The two sides have not reached complete agreement. Nonetheless, through the two rounds of the meeting, we have narrowed our views to some extent and have been able to fully understand each other's stand.

Currently, on the question of the form of meeting that has become the most difficult issue, we note the remarks that the head of the delegates of the South side and other delegates made at the end of the last meeting acknowledging the necessity of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting. We think this shows that the stand of the South side toward the form of meeting is approaching the proposal of our side.

We think that the South side, at today's third round meeting, will approach with a little more broad-minded attitude discussing problems and bring good news for all compatriots who are watching this meeting.

Now, I would like to once again make our stand clear over the question of the form of meeting and the remaining agenda items.

The question of the form of meeting is not one that can be superficially defined. It is one defined according to the character of the contents of the agenda items to be discussed. Thus, it is a very important matter that determines the success of discussion. The discussion of problems can or cannot proceed in accord with the desire of all people according to the definition of the form of the meeting. For our successful discussion of the questions, which are directly linked to the destiny of the whole nation and to its life-and-death interest, according

to the aspirations of the nation above all we think, it is important that the two sides equally do away with their past views and adopt a stand and attitude to make a fresh start.

If the demand of the changed situation is overlooked or ignored by insisting on the old views, it is difficult to expect appropriate success in improving North-South relations, even if an effort is made. This is the conclusion drawn from the North-South dialogue of the past.

Over the past 17 years, between the North and South, multi-channel dialogues have been held as many as 190 times in a form of representatives' talks.

Nevertheless, as a result of the exercise of the influence of a particular circle, due fruits were not produced, even if much energy was expended and much time whiled away.

Furthermore, the aspirations of all fellow countrymen for reunification have been rapidly enhanced recently and the demand and desire of the people from all walks of life to directly participate in the North-South dialogue have been unprecedentedly strengthened. Thus, our politicians who have the mission of listening to the voices of the popular masses and of reflecting their demands in politics should concentrate efforts on seeking a new negotiation formula that can meet their demands. What is important in doing so is not to adhere to ideologies or systems. Only when more people participate, combine their wisdom, and unite their strength in discussing the issues will there be more profound depth to such issues and will there be more serious contents to such issues; then will they discover superior methods of resolution. This is a justification no one can deny.

From this viewpoint, the revised plan that the South side put forward in connection with the form of the conference during the last meeting is, in essence, not different from what the South side put forth first. Thus, we should note that this plan is not designed to practically resolve the problems but merely to pursue a propaganda aim of giving an impression to public opinion that a revised plan has been presented.

He pointed out as follows:

If our politicians take the same reckless course of the past, forgetting the past painful lesson that a small number of representatives sitting together had to break up the dialogue without any fruition after arguing pro and con while adhering to their own assertions and egotism, we will be deprived of the qualification to speak about political affairs and of the face with which we can come before the people.

In order for the politicians of the North and the South to boldly part from the worn-out method of dialogue of the past that was used for confrontation, with no thought of fruition, and to make a new start, they should adopt,

without hesitation, a format of active and wide-ranging dialogue in which a broad range of the people participate, instead of passive method of negotiations in which only a small number of selected representatives attend.

In order to do so, needless to say, the format of a joint parliamentary conference should be adopted. This is a fact that a number of political parties and parliamentarians on the South side also recognize, and is widely known to the people.

I again urge the delegates of the South side to boldly respond, making the format of the conference a North-South joint parliamentary conference without trying to read someone else's mind.

Concerning the issue of agenda, the head of our side's delegation said:

What is left in connection with the agenda issue is how to formulate the issue of nonaggression—the principle agenda—as an agenda item. It has been asserted that recommending to the authorities of the North and South a nonaggression agreement and that publishing a joint declaration on nonaggression put forward by our side be jointly adopted as one agenda item. However, this is the same as insisting on including unnecessary minutia as agenda items. We cannot but say this would only result in creating difficulty in discussion of the issue.

As a matter of fact, that the authoritative assemblies of both sides merely recommend the authorities to conclude a nonaggression agreement without clarifying their assertions and positions toward this issue while discussing the issue on nonaggression means the evasion of the important responsibility of the assembly for the issue of ensuring the peace of the nation.

Furthermore, as for the agreement of nonaggression that the South side's authorities put forth in the past, this has now become an empty remark that cannot practically guarantee peace. The expressions agreement or treaty are not applicable to the internal matters of our country.

I will again talk about our draft joint declaration on nonaggression between the North and South. This declaration includes the issue of not using the force of arms against the opposing side and not invading the opposing side with the force of arms under any circumstances; the issue of peacefully resolving differences in opinions and disputes that may take place between the North and South through dialogue and negotiations; the issue of not getting involved in aggression or armed intervention by foreign countries against the opposing side and not extending cooperation on this; the issue of mutually reducing armed forces in a phased manner and on a large scale and simultaneously removing foreign forces and nuclear weapons—stationed in the (?area) of the Korean peninsula—in a phased manner; the issue of turning the DMZ into a buffer zone, preventing armed conflicts and disputes from taking place in the buffer zone, and

stationing inspection forces of neutral nations inside the DMZ in an effort to guarantee this; and the issue of entrusting the authorities of both sides with the task of adopting a declaration of nonaggression between the North and South after making the issues mentioned so far concrete. This shows that if the issue of releasing a joint declaration on nonaggression, which we proposed, is placed on the agenda for discussion, the issue of recommending that the authorities of both sides sign an agreement on nonaggression, which the South side demands, will naturally be resolved. Therefore, we recognize that the issue of releasing a declaration on nonaggression must be separated as an agenda item as a matter of course.

Our delegation head noted as follows:

In the 2d meeting, your side proposed convening North-South parliamentary talks on 29 August in Pyongyang to discuss only the Olympic issue. We cannot but term this an unjust demand that very much runs counter to the basic tenor of this meeting. As the South also recognizes, our current meeting was arranged to discuss and resolve working procedures for convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting designed to resolve both the nonaggression issue and the Olympic issue, which are the most urgent and important issues pending between the North and South at present. However, in a far-fetched manner, the South side proposed holding talks between parliamentary representatives and discussing only the Olympic issue there. This makes us suspicious that the South side rejects the proposal for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and that it is not interested in other issues.

Delegation head Chon Kum-chol stressed as follows:

As important issues for bringing an end to confrontation, tension, misunderstanding, and mistrust between the North and South; promoting reconciliation and trust; and paving a road toward peace and peaceful reunification, both the issue of releasing a joint declaration on nonaggression and the issue of the 24th Olympic Games must be resolved at the earliest possible date. For this to be done, a North-South joint parliamentary meeting must be held where the will and demand of the entire nation can be collected, and must be convened without any delay.

After saying this, delegation head Chon Kum-chol called on the South side to join in our sincere efforts to conclude our meeting at the earliest possible date and to urgently convene a North-South joint parliamentary meeting instead of coming up with an incorrect demand that runs counter to the tenor of this meeting and to the expectations and desire of the people at home and abroad, thereby creating confusion and obstacles in discussing issues.

Further on 3d Round of Talks

SK2208112988 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0805 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The third round meeting between the delegates of the North and the South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting was held in Panmunjom. The third round meeting between the delegates of the North and South to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting was held at Tongilgak, a building on our side in Panmunjom, at 1000 this morning.

At the second round meeting held on 20 August, our side, in an effort to consummate a meeting of the delegates of the North and the South and hold a North-South joint parliamentary meeting at an early date, was generous enough to put forward new agenda items that fully take into consideration the South side's assertions. Our side then proposed discussing first the issue of the Olympics as an urgent agenda item at the joint parliamentary meeting, as there is little time left. However, the South side not only blindly opposed our broad-minded, just, and accommodating proposal in connection with the convocation of the North-South joint parliamentary meeting at today's meeting, but blocked the progress of the discussion of issues, openly revealing their intent to abuse the Olympics for perpetual division rather than reunification.

Many foreign and domestic reporters gathered at the Tongilgak to report the meeting of the delegates of the two sides today. They paid deep attention to the different positions and attitudes of the North and the South at the meeting and said that the progress and success of the meeting would entirely depend upon the South side's attitude.

Participating in the meeting from our side were Chon Kum-chol, the head of the delegation, and delegates An Pyong-su, Yi Tong-chol, Yi Chu-ung, and Pak Mun-chan. Five delegates participated in the meeting from the South side. The delegates of our side who greeted the South side's delegates at Tongilgak, the place of the meeting, exchanged greetings and words with them. The head of the delegation of our side stressed that the politicians of the North and the South should join efforts to make the Military Demarcation Line between the North and the South a relic of the past, and noted that although our nation has suffered many invasions by foreign forces, it has invariably united itself as one nation and repelled the aggressors and defended the country's independence and sovereignty. He then made the appeal that we should reject the interference of foreign forces by all means and devote all energy and wisdom toward realizing the reunification of the country.

Then the meeting began to discuss the basic issues. Chon Kum-chol, head of the delegation of our side, spoke first.

He noted the following: As we approached the first round meeting with the South side, we expected discussion would end after only a single meeting and preparations would be under way by now for the first round North-South joint parliamentary meeting, under circumstances in which a unanimity of views was reached in principle through the letters sent and received between the two sides on holding a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and discussing the questions of nonaggression and Olympics at the meeting.

Nonetheless, as has been shown by reality, our views were unexpectedly in disagreement even on the form of the meeting, and the third round meeting had to be held, as we now see. We cannot but regret this very much.

Chon Kum-chol, head of our delegates, said that, nevertheless, we have not abandoned our hope. He went on to add: The epochal counter-proposal our side put forward at the second round meeting opens a new possibility for narrowing the difference of opinion of the two sides. He said: We noted the remarks of the senior delegate and other delegates of the South side at the close of the last meeting acknowledging the need for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and that he thinks the South side ought to participate in discussion of issues at the third round of meeting today with a more broad-minded attitude so that we can give good news to all the fellow countrymen who are watching this meeting.

The head of our side's delegation said that he would like to once again make our stand clear on the question of the form of meeting and the remaining agenda items, and noted the following:

The question of the form of meeting is not something that can be superficially defined. It is defined according to the character of the contents of the agenda items to be discussed. Thus, it is a very important matter that determines the success of discussion. For us to successfully discuss the questions that are directly linked with the destiny of the entire nation and with its life-and-death interests, according to the aspirations of the nation, we think it is important, above all, that the two sides equally do away with their past views and adopt a stand and attitude toward making a fresh start.

If the demand of the changed situation is overlooked or ignored by insisting on the old views, it is difficult to expect appropriate success in improving North-South relations, even if an effort is made. This is the conclusion drawn from the North-South dialogues of the past.

Over the past 17 years, between the North and the South, multichannel dialogues have been held as many as 190 times in the form of representatives' talks. Nevertheless, as a result of the exercise of influence of a particular circle, due fruits were not produced, even if much energy was expended and much time was whiled away.

Furthermore, the aspirations of all fellow countrymen for reunification have been recently rapidly enhanced and the demand and desire of the people from all walks of life to directly participate in the North-South dialogue has been unprecedentedly strengthened. Thus, our politicians, who have the mission of listening to the voices of the popular masses and of reflecting their demands in politics, should concentrate efforts on seeking a new negotiation formula that can meet their demands. What is important in doing so is not to adhere to ideologies or systems.

When more people participate, combine their wisdom, and unite their strength in discussing the issues, the depth of such issues will be more profound and the contents of such issues will be more serious; they will then discover superior methods of resolution. This is a justification no one can deny.

He pointed out the following: If our politicians take the same reckless course as in the past, forgetting the past painful lesson that a small number of representatives sitting together had to break off dialogue without any fruition after arguing pros and cons, while adhering to their own assertions and egotism, we will be deprived of qualification to speak about political affairs and of the face with which we can come before the people.

He went on to stress: For the politicians of the North and the South to boldly part from the worn-out method of dialogue of the past that was used for confrontation, with no thought of fruition, and to make a new start, they should adopt, without hesitation, a format of active and wide-ranging dialogue in which a broad-range of the people participate, instead of the passive method of negotiations by which only a small number of selected representatives attend.

To do so, needless to say, the format of a joint parliamentary conference should be adopted. I again urge the delegates of the South side to boldly respond to making the format of the conference a North-South joint parliamentary conference without trying to read someone else's mind.

Concerning the issue of agenda, the head of our side's delegation continued: The South side's assertions that the issue of recommending the conclusion of an agreement of nonaggression to the authorities of the North and the South and that the issue of publishing the joint declaration on nonaggression our side put forward should be jointly adopted as agenda items are the same as insisting on including unnecessary minutia as agenda items. We cannot but say this would only result in creating difficulty in the discussion of the issue.

As a matter of fact, that the authoritative assemblies of both sides merely recommend that the authorities conclude a nonaggression agreement without clarifying their

assertions and positions toward this issue while discussing the issue on nonaggression constitutes an evasion of the important responsibility of the assembly on the issue of ensuring the peace of the nation.

Furthermore, as for the agreement of nonaggression that the South side's authorities put forward in the past, this has now become an empty remark that cannot practically guarantee peace. The expression of agreement or treaty is itself not applicable to the internal matters of our nation.

The head of our side's delegation once again explained in detail the contents of our draft of a joint declaration on nonaggression between the North and the South that has been most fairly worked out and repeatedly demanded that the issue of announcing a nonaggression declaration be adopted as an agenda item as a matter of fact.

The head of our side's delegation, mentioning that in the second meeting the South side had proposed a North-South joint parliamentary meeting in Pyongyang on 29 August to discuss only the Olympic games, noted that it is an unreasonable assertion that runs extremely counter to the basic tenor of the basic meeting.

He said: The South side makes us suspicious that the South side rejects the proposal for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and that it is not interested in discussion of other agenda items by insisting on holding talks between parliamentary representatives and discussing only the issue of the Olympics.

The issue of announcing a joint declaration on nonaggression and the issue of the 24th Olympic Games, all important issues designed to remove confrontation, tension, misunderstanding, and distrust between the North and the South; to promote reconciliation and trust; and to explore the road to peace and peaceful reunification, should all be settled at an early date. Toward this end, a North-South joint parliamentary meeting capable of summarizing the will and demands of all the fellow countrymen should be convened, and it should be convened on 26 August, instead of delaying it until 29 August.

After saying this, the head of our side's delegation called on the South side to join forces with us in our sincere efforts to conclude our meetings at an early date and urgently convene the North-South joint parliamentary meeting, instead of creating confusion and difficulties for the discussion of the issues by coming up with wrong assertions that run counter to the basic tenor of the basic meeting and to the expectations and aspirations of the people at home and abroad.

The South side, however, once again opposed the joint meeting form even at today's meeting and opposed discussing something like a declaration of nonaggression as an agenda item, arguing that it can be discussed after the Olympics. The South side created an artificial obstacle to the meeting by going so far as to return to its

former unjust stand and even by raising once again the issue of a summit meeting that it had said at the second meeting it would shelve as an agenda item.

At this juncture, one of the South side's delegates, setting aside the head of his side's delegation, repeated a theory that a joint meeting is impossible.

Hearing this, the head of our side's delegation said: The South side's remarks make me think that discussion of the issues seems to be hitting more snags.

After proving with concrete facts that the South side's so-called amended proposal is only an amendment in words designed to conjure up the impression the South side had made a concession of some kind, but it totally lacked any amendment in substance, the head of our side's delegation emphatically said that our side does not recognize it as an amended proposal accordingly.

The head of our side's delegation, saying that the South side's opposing a joint meeting without due cause is because of its clinging to the shopworn notion and way of thinking, noted that today's situation has changed a great deal.

He called into mind the fact that debates on reunification have now unprecedentedly surged ahead in the North and the South, that various sectors have actively demanded that they be allowed to participate in talks for reunification, and even that countries hostile to each other are now advancing toward relaxation of tension.

He repeatedly asserted that such a new situation requires that we politicians present and probe new directions for politics to follow and that it is precisely a joint meeting.

He then called for a joint meeting capable of summarizing the will of all the fellow countrymen to be held at an early date.

The head of our side's delegation stressed that our side's proposal for a joint meeting is of weighty significance, even from a viewpoint toward settling national issues on a nation-as-the-main-force stand.

He said that the South side's assertion that it cannot agree on a joint meeting since it is complicated and that the South side is busy is an act of ignoring the will and aspirations of all the fellow countrymen. He pressed a question: What could be more busy and pressing than issues related to the future of the nation?

The South side, being at a loss for words in the face of our side's reasonable logic and assertions and saying that it was once again raising an urgent proposal concerning the Olympics, suggested today that only the issue of the Olympics be discussed separately at talks between the parliamentary representatives on 29 August. Concerning this, the head of our side's delegation said: If a joint meeting is convened on 26 August and the Olympic issue

is discussed before anything else as we have proposed, things will be settled smoothly. However, the South side's proposal for a separate meeting to discuss the Olympic issue is a sort of retreat and an act of creating obstacles to the discussion of issues.

After branding it a ploy designed to make our proposal for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting vanish, he rebutted that this is an idea not worth considering.

He noted: Even after the South side had agreed in principle on the issues of the South side inviting our side to the 24th Olympic Games, of the North and South cohosting the 24th Olympic Games, and of realizing diversified cooperation and exchanges between the North and the South, an agenda item that we have raised freshly, at the second meeting held on 21 August, it now reversed itself. This is not a sincere attitude.

After saying this, he demanded that the two sides stop discussing issues already agreed upon and that discussion be concentrated on unresolved issues.

However, with the South side remaining insincere concerning discussing issues, the meeting between the two sides arranged to prepare for a North-South joint parliamentary meeting made no progress at all even today.

At today's meeting, our side demanded on many occasion that the South side, the inviting side, designate the date for the next meeting according to custom. However, the South side avoided replying until the end and instead suggested that the heads of the two sides make individual contact.

Saying that our side will inform the South side on the telephone on the issue of individual contact, we repeatedly demanded that the South side designate the date for the fourth contact before anything else. However, the South side did not designate the date until the end.

After the meeting, the head of our side's delegation held a press meeting.

South Korea

Further on South-North Parliamentary Talks

Delegates To Meet Again

SK1908230888 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 20 Aug 88 p 1

[By staff reporter Yu Kun-ha]

[Text] Panmunjom—South and north Korean lawmakers failed yesterday to strike an agreement on the format and agenda for a proposed parliamentary conference.

They have agreed to meet again today but the possibility of both sides straightening out differences appears to be not so great.

In talks lasting for about three hours, the five delegates from the south proposed that the inter-Korea conference be limited to select delegations of 20 legislators.

For the conference to be productive, they said, it must be a meeting of a small number of representatives from both sides.

The north, instead, called for a full joint session of both parliaments plus 50 non-parliamentary representatives.

The two sides spent most of their first parliamentary contact in about three years arguing about the format of the full-dress meeting.

In an effort to resolve the deadlock, the south's delegation proposed discussing the easier question of setting the agenda first. But the north's agenda was closely linked with the format and could not be discussed separately.

Delegates from the south presented north Korea's participation in the Seoul Olympic Games as the primary topic to be discussed, while the north put emphasis on inducing the south's legislators to jointly sign a nonaggression declaration.

On the Olympic issue, the north Korean delegates intentionally refrained from taking any clear stance. They did not reiterate their demand to co-host the Games, simply proposing that the issue be included in the agenda.

In contrast, they were positive on the matter of nonaggression declaration, to the point of presenting a draft agreement drawn up unilaterally to their counterparts from the south for review.

After the meeting, Pak Chun-kyu, the south's chief delegate, said he had the impression that the north stressed the importance of the Olympic issue only verbally, their top priority put on the nonaggression declaration.

He said the chance of the full-dress conference taking place is just fifty-fifty, an indication that he felt the preparatory talks were not satisfactory. Before leaving for Panmunjom, he said that he was optimistic about the talks.

"The north Korean delegates will have inner talks tonight to review our proposals which I can say are quite progressive," Pak said, hoping that the north changes its position at today's meeting.

But the wide differences of the two sides over the format and agenda of the main parliamentary conference make any further progress quite unlikely, a political observer said.

The preparatory talks were held at Tongil-gak (Unification Pavilion) in the northern sector of the truce village. The two sides will meet at "House of Peace" in the southern sector today.

Yesterday's meeting was the first public contact between the two sides since the 10th round of inter-Korea Red Cross talks in December 1985.

North Korea broke off all contacts in early 1986 in protest against the joint ROK-U.S. Team Spirit military exercise.

In connection with the format of the proposed full-dress meeting, the south suggested that each delegation consist of 20 select legislators, 40 support staff and 50 journalists.

Commenting on the north Korean offer of a joint meeting of both parliaments, Pak said, "It is just like applying the Greek city state democracy which is not practical today."

He said such a large gathering of lawmakers could be considered only after agreement on important matters has been reached at meetings of representatives.

In his key-note speech, Pak submitted five topics for the agenda.

- The participation of northern athletes in the Seoul Olympics;
- The acceleration of exchanges of personnel and goods, and cooperation between the two sides;
- The question of recommending a nonaggression agreement to the governments of both sides;
- The question of the resumption of the inter-Korea Red Cross talks and economic meetings; and
- The question of recommending a south-north summit.

The chief deputy from Seoul also said accords reached at the parliamentary talks should be embodied in a joint agreement and made public.

He proposed each delegation stay in the other's area for three nights and four days.

He called for applying the precedent set in past travels between the two sides in deciding all procedural matters such as passage through Panmunjom and the guarantee of personal safety.

But the north Korean delegates insisted that the talks be limited to two topics—the Olympic issue and the signing of a nonaggression declaration.

They said other issues including a south-north summit and resumption of inter-Korea talks at various levels could be easily solved when a nonaggression declaration was made.

Chon Kum-chol, head of the north Korean delegation, proposed that the first meeting be held in Pyongyang for five days from Aug. 26.

He also proposed that the inter-Korea parliamentary talks be attended by 50 delegates, representing parties, social organizations and other fields, selected by members of the two parliaments.

The agenda should include a joint communique on nonaggression, the Seoul Olympic Games and other issues to relieve tension between the two Koreas, he said.

Chon said discussion will be held in a free atmosphere and that an equal number of delegates from south and north can take part in a vote when necessary.

He proposed that the chairman of the Supreme People's Council preside over the joint meeting in Pyongyang and that the speaker of the Assembly preside over the meeting in Seoul.

He suggested that the joint meeting be open in principle but be held behind closed doors when necessary.

South Delegate Speaks to Press

SK2008233188 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 21 Aug 88 p 2

[Text] Pak Chun-kyu, Seoul's chief delegate, told reporters shortly after the south-north conference that the south's proposal made today on the format and agenda of the south-north parliamentary talks is final.

"As far as format and agenda are concerned, we can't make any further concession to the north," Pak said.

As to north Korea's counterproposal for promotion of multilateral exchanges and cooperation between south and north, Pak said south Korea's earlier proposed agenda items, such as a South-North Red Cross and economic talks could be included in the counter proposal.

S-N Cameramen's Row

An unexpected row erupted between news photographers of both sides concerning "strategic" position close to the conference table.

Southern photographers arrived at the conference site one hour before the meeting began and occupied all the positions close to the table.

The northern people came to the site 30 minutes later only to find that all the positions close to the table were taken by the southern people.

The northern photographers harshly protested to the southern side, threatening to end the conference unless the southern side conceded.

The brief scuffle ended after the southern people withdrew from the eastern side of the table to make room for the northern people.

The northern reporters totaled 32, about a quarter of the southern side.

Among the reporters from the northern side was the Chinese XINHUA NEWS AGENCY's correspondent to Pyongyang.

The Chinese, who identified himself as Chun Kuk-chon [name as published] said that he had been in Pyongyang for seven years and he knew that trade between south Korea and China was active.

He said that he learned it by listening to radio broadcasts from Seoul and Voice of America.

N.K. reaction

North Korean delegates showed no immediate reaction to south Korea's counterproposal that the agenda should include co-hosting of the Seoul Olympics, the south's invitation to the north to participate in the Seoul Games, the issue of the nonaggression pact and its declaration and resumption of the south-north Red Cross and economic talks.

The south then came up with another proposal that the south-north parliamentary meeting slated for Aug. 29 in Pyongyang should be solely concerned with the Seoul Olympic Games.

The north replied that further discussions on these matters could be made next week when the third round of the preparatory talks resume at the truce village.

N.K rejection of summitry

After yesterday's meeting, delegates from Seoul answered journalists' questions at the Freedom House in Panmunjom for some 30 minutes.

Referring to Pyongyang's demand to co-host the Olympic Games, Pak Chun-kyu, the south's chief delegate, said, "It is next to impossible to co-host the Games of the moment.

"The only practical way to settle the Olympic problem (between south and north Korea) is for Pyongyang to participate in the Games," said Pak.

If north Korea participates, the south will call the "24th Seoul Olympiad," the 24th Olympiad," omitting "Seoul," Pak said.

Asked to comment on the prospects for the third preliminary meeting slated for tomorrow, Pak said, "The north is expected to stick to inter-Korean joint meetings of lawmakers and representatives of social groups.

But both sides are likely to make some progress on the issue of agenda (for the inter-Korea parliamentary meeting)," he said.

Rep. Kim Fong-ho said, "We made a revised proposal today and so we expect their position will be changed."

Commenting on the north's refusal of an inter-Korea summit meeting Pak said, "It seems to me that they cannot recommend (to the Pyongyang government) such a summit meeting because of the limited role and function of their Supreme People's Council."

He said the southern delegates will no longer propose the summit meeting.

North Receives 'Outside' Notes

SK2008233288 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Aug 88 p 2

[Text] Panmunjom—The second-day preliminary contact nearly came to a rupture all of sudden yesterday when northerners demanded an explanation for alleged KBS "reports" that the talks ended in a failure.

Pyongyang's chief delegate Chon Kum-chol took the issue with KBS recording of two advance reports—one that the contact produced substantial outcome and the other that it ended in failure, both made while the session was in progress.

KBS reporters explained through a message delivered to Seoul's Pak Chun-kyu that the reports were recorded in preparation for the meetings' close shortly before a deadline, and not broadcast.

But Chon argued that KBS reporters must have been aware of Seoul's "strategy to put an end to the second-day contact in rupture, threatening to walk out if a satisfactory explanation is not offered."

After about 10 minutes of debate between the two parties, Chon abruptly toned down his argument and proposed to keep talking about the agenda for a main conference upon reading a message handed to him.

A southern delegate opined that the message probably told Chon not to walk out with an irrelevant excuse.

He said that eight messages were conveyed to Chon by North Korean couriers, "much more than those on the previous day," maintaining that the northern delegation is wirepulled by supervisors not involved in the meeting.

For instance, he pointed out that Chon made a new proposal on the agenda and on a third meeting after receiving the messages.

He complained that Chon has not been given full authority to decide on issues taken up in the meeting and that "we'd better talk with the one directing the Pyongyang mission from outside of the conference hall."

The two contacts were videotaped by southern and northern technicians apparently for "live monitoring" outside the hall though newsmen and photographers were denied admission during the sessions.

South Suggests Agenda Items

OW2008054288 Tokyo KYODO in English
0515 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Aug. 20 KYODO—The second day of a preliminary session to prepare for North-South Korean parliamentary talks in the truce village of Panmunjom on Saturday ended without agreement.

The two sides agreed to open a third round of the preliminary talks at 11 a.m. Monday.

The North Korean delegation led by Chon Kum-chol of the Korean Workers' Party and the South Korean side headed by Pak Chun-kyu of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, both made up of five members, met in the South Korean side of Panmunjom in the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas at 11 a.m.

South Korea began Saturday's preliminary meeting by suggesting five points for the agenda of the parliamentary talks: the North's participation in the Seoul Olympic Games, North-South personnel exchanges and cooperation, a nonaggression pact, a reopening of the Red Cross and economic talks, and North-South summit talks.

Pak said that since the Olympic games issue needs to be discussed urgently, the parliamentary talks should be held during this month.

The South Korean side also said that a small group of about 20-30 representative lawmakers from both sides should meet in the parliamentary talks to establish some points of agreement, after which all members of both parliaments should gather to give formal approval to the agreements.

The North Korean side insisted, however, that all parliament members and about 50 other representatives of various concerned groups of both sides should attend the plenary meeting.

North Korea also continued to push for cosponsoring by both Koreas of the Olympic Games starting September 17, maintaining this was necessary to relax tensions and for reconciliation.

In the first preliminary talks held on the North Korean side of Panmunjom on Friday, the two sides also failed to reach agreement concerning the format for the plenary talks and an agenda.

Olympics Proposed as Sole Topic

SK2008233088 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
21 Aug 88 p 1

[By Kim Chang-yong]

[Text] Panmunjom—The South Korean National Assembly proposed yesterday to hold a South-North parliamentary conference on Aug. 29 in Pyongyang to discuss "questions regarding the 24th Olympic Games" as the sole item on the agenda.

The Pyongyang delegation said it would study the latest proposal from the Seoul side, demanding that the two delegations hold their third preliminary talks at 11 a.m. tomorrow at Tongil-gak in the northern sector of the truce village.

Chief southern delegate Rep. Pak Chun-kyu made the new proposal as second-day negotiations came to a deadlock without any agreement being reached on the knotty issues of the agenda and format for the full-dress conference.

"If the Aug. 29 Pyongyang conference takes place, sports officials, as well as lawmakers, of the two sides will be asked to participate to discuss the Olympic questions," Pak explained.

In yesterday's talks, which lasted about two and a half hours at Peace House in the southern sector at this truce village, the two sides set out their adjusted proposals for the format and agenda. But they still could not straighten out their differences.

Pak said that the title of the projected conference could be called "the South-North parliamentary conference," instead of the "South-North parliamentary representatives conference," which the Seoul side originally proposed.

Pak also suggested that the two delegations put the title of the sophisticated agenda item on the non-aggression pact just as "the questions regarding South-North non-aggression agreement."

The Seoul side demands that the parliamentary conference recommend a non-aggression agreement between South and north Korean government authorities, while the North demands that the conference declare the non-aggression agreement by itself.

Rep. Pak also suggested that the number of lawmakers participating in the main talks be increased from 20 to 30 from each side. He said the two sides could hold an extended conference with all of their parliamentary members attending to sanction agreements reached in the limited-number conference.

Chief northern delegate Chon Kum-chol, however, rejected Pak's adjusted proposal, insisting that it still requests only a limited number of delegates take part in the projected main conference.

Chon argued there is no necessity for the two sides to hold a representatives' meeting prior to the extended full-dress conference. An extended meeting is the best way to reflect the whole people's opinion, he asserted.

Chon said the North was willing to accept Seoul's agenda item for expansion of South-north exchanges and cooperation only if the South accepts the North's items for declaration of a South-North non-aggression pact and for the South-North to co-host the 24th Olympic Games.

Rep. Pak suggested later that the main talks discuss questions of Seoul's invitation of North Korean athletes to the Seoul Olympics as well as the South-North co-hosting the Games, questions of concluding non-aggression agreement and its declaration, and questions of resuming deadlocked South-North talks and realizing exchange of personnel.

The northerners showed no positive reaction to such an adjusted proposal, and Rep. Pak set out his last suggestion that the two sides hold a conference on Aug. 29 in Pyongyang to discuss questions only about the Olympics.

North To Review South Plan

SK2008044188 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0400 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpts] The second preliminary contact in preparation for the North-South parliamentary talks was held this morning in the House of Peace in our side's area at Panmunjom. The issues of the format and agenda of the main talks were discussed. However, no agreement was reached. [passage omitted]

The delegates of both sides agreed to meet again and to hold a third meeting at Tongilgak in the North side's area at Panmunjom at 1100 [0100 GMT] on 22 August. [passage omitted]

Our side proposed holding talks in the manner of a parliamentary conference in Pyongyang on 29 August and discussing the single agenda item of the issue of the Olympics with relevant athletic officials participating. However, the North Korean side said that it would review our side's plan and expressed its will to discuss this issue again at the third round of preliminary contact. Thus, today's meeting ended 2 hours and 34 minutes after it began.

'No Progress' in Talks

SK2008070588 Seoul YONHAP in English
0656 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Panmunjom, South Korea, Aug. 20 (YONHAP)—Parliamentary delegates of South and North Korea met for the second day Saturday but made no progress in their efforts to clear the way for the proposed full-dress inter-Korean parliamentary talks.

After two and a half hours of discussions, the two sides agreed to resume their meeting on Aug. 22 to continue their efforts to narrow the differences on the format and agenda of the main round of talks.

In the meeting held in the South Korean building in this truce village, the South Korean delegates tried to achieve a compromise with an offer to hold the full-scale talks on Aug. 29 in Pyongyang with 30 lawmakers and sports officials from each side attending.

The South Korean delegates also proposed a single agenda item for the full-scale talks—the upcoming 24th Olympic games.

The North Korean delegates, who rejected an earlier South Korean proposal for a three-item agenda, requested that the discussions be resumed after they review Seoul's latest offer.

Prior to making the compromise offer, South Korean chief delegate Pak Chun-kyu revised his first-day proposal and suggested that the number of lawmakers from each side to attend the full-scale talks be increased from 20 to 30.

Pak said the two sides could also hold a joint session of the two Korea's parliaments with all the lawmakers attending—299 from the South and 655 from the North—to ratify agreements reached in the talks.

He also proposed a compromise on the agenda of the main talks by suggesting three broad topics—the Seoul Olympic games, a non-aggression pact, and resumption of inter-Korea exchanges.

On the previous day, the two sides differed on the agenda with the South calling for the North's participation in the Seoul Olympics and a recommendation in the main talks that the governments of the two sides sign a non-aggression pact while the North demanded that the Olympics be co-hosted and that the full-dress talks make a joint declaration of a non-aggression pact.

Pak reiterated his earlier call for North Korea's participation in the Seoul games and proposed that a third meeting be held early next week if the Saturday meeting achieved no progress.

North Korean chief delegate Chon Kum-chol, however, rejected Pak's proposals which he described as nothing new, and continued to demand that the main talks be held with all the lawmakers from both sides attending along with 50 representatives of political parties and social organizations from each side.

Chon also stuck to his earlier call for a joint declaration of a non-aggression pact in the full-dress talks and repeated his earlier demand that the Olympic games be co-hosted.

3d Session Set for 22 August

SK2108101788 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0900 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] The third contact to discuss convening parliamentary talks between the North and the South will be held tomorrow morning at the North side area in Panmunjom. Tomorrow's third contact will again cover the form of the North-South parliamentary talks and the agenda items to be discussed at the talks, upon which agreement was not reached during the first and second contacts. Because the North side persisted in adopting a joint meeting as the form of talks at the first and second contacts, the success of tomorrow's contact is presently uncertain.

However, at the second contact, since both sides failed to narrow opinion on these questions, our side put forward an amendment overture that North-South parliamentary talks be held on 29 August in Pyongyang with the sports officials concerned from both sides attending to discuss the single agenda item of the question of the 24th Olympics. Therefore, what draws our concern is how the North side will respond to the overture at the third contact.

Sides Said Far Apart on Talks

OW2208051288 Tokyo KYODO in English
0443 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Aug. 22 KYODO—A third day of talks to prepare for a North-South Korean parliamentary conference opened Monday morning with the two sides still far apart on the agenda and format for the proposed meeting.

The preparatory talks began last Friday with five legislators each from North and South Korea taking part. Little if any progress was made then or on the second day of the talks Saturday.

The preparatory talks for the proposed full-scale political talks to ease tensions on the divided Korean peninsula are the first meeting between North and South Korea in three years.

The North Korean delegation, led by Chon Kum-chol of the Korean Worker's Party, said the proposed meeting should be attended by all the members of parliament of

North and South Korea and by about 100 representatives of various groups, including political parties, for total strength of over 1,000 delegates.

The South Korean delegation, led by Pak Chun-kyu of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, maintained, however, that only about 20 delegates from each side should participate in the meeting, with some 40 supporting members and some 50 media persons in attendance.

Pak on Monday reiterated his suggestion of last Saturday that a four-day meeting should be held in Pyongyang from August 29 on the sole topic of the Olympic games.

This topic needs to be discussed urgently because there are only about 10 days left until the last entries can be made for the Seoul Olympics, he said.

Chon replied that this proposal was a serious deviation from the basic aim of the proposed talks. Since the theme of the talks is a very important one, it should be discussed by a large number of people from a wide perspective, he said.

North Korea has called for a joint declaration of a nonaggression pact by both parliaments. Chon repeated this suggestion, and also said both sides would need to make concessions if the meeting was to be realized.

Talks Urged Between Senior Delegates
SK2208051388 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0400 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The third round of preliminary contacts for the convocation of the North-South parliamentary talks was held at Tongilgak on the North Korean side of Panmunjom at 1100 this morning. Negotiations for such matters as the form of the full-dress talks and the agenda items were conducted.

The third round of preliminary contacts failed to reach agreement as the North Korean side insisted on a joint meeting and a joint declaration for nonaggression. The meeting broke up at 1327. Reporter Kim Chun-sok will now give us an on-the-spot report from Panmunjom.

[Kim Chun-sok] The delegates from both sides who met at Tongilgak on the North Korean side of Panmunjom again this morning held negotiations on the form of the full-dress talks and the agenda items, but as the North Korean side insisted on a joint meeting and rejected even the discussion on the Olympics, the two sides were unable to narrow differences and broke up the meeting at 1327.

As the two sides showed no room for a compromise, Pak Chun-kyu, the senior delegate of our side, suggested to Chon Kum-chol, the head of the delegation of the North Korean side, that 20 delegates of our side go to Pyongyang on 29 August for the full-dress talks and proposed that a closed door behind-the-scenes contact between the senior delegates of the two sides be held to settle this

matter. Then Chon Kum-chol, the head of the delegation of the North Korean side, left the meeting place, saying that he would reply to the South side later.

As no reply from the North Korean side has been received, it is unpredictable whether the exclusive talks between the senior delegates of the two sides will be held this afternoon or some other day. [passage omitted]

North Not 'Clear' on Answer
SK2208110488 Seoul YONHAP in English
1051 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Aug. 22 (YONHAP)—Parliamentary delegates of South and North Korea ended the third round of meetings Monday without reaching an agreement or setting a time for further meetings.

In the meeting, held at the North Korean building in this truce village, the two sides sought to narrow their differences on the format and agenda of the proposed full-scale inter-Korean parliamentary talks but both sides held fast to their respective earlier positions without showing any signs of compromise in two and a half hours of heated arguments.

As the discussions came to a standstill, South Korean chief delegate Pak Chun-kyu proposed to his North Korean counterpart that they have a separate meeting between themselves for further negotiations.

North Korean chief delegate Chon Kum-chol, however, did not give a clear answer to Pak's offer.

We will keep the door open whenever the North decides on a date for the fourth round of contacts for the full-dress joint session of the two Koreas' parliaments, Pak said.

Pak said he proposed a separate meeting with Chon to save time in connection with the Seoul Olympic games which open in less than a month. I am going to propose to continue the meeting even after the Olympics if no signs of progress are realized in the separate meeting, he added.

After spending the first two hours arguing on the format of the talks, the two sides began discussing the agenda but immediately faced a deadlock.

In his opening remarks, Chon rejected a South Korean offer for urgent talks among lawmakers on Aug. 29 in Pyongyang to discuss the Olympic games as contrary to the purpose of the talks.

Chon, instead, repeated his earlier call for a joint session of the two sides' parliaments with all their lawmakers attending and for a declaration of non-aggression as the agenda item for the talks.

Also, Chon declined to compromise on the Olympic issue saying that the matter can be discussed only at the joint session of the parliaments.

The North Korean delegates demanded that North Korea be allowed to co-host the upcoming Olympic games while the South Korean delegates called for the North's participation in the Seoul games.

North Rejects Olympics Talks

OW2208063788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0618 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Panmunjom, Korea, Aug. 22 KYODO—North Korea rejected a proposal by the South on Monday that they hold a North-South parliamentary conference in Pyongyang from August 29 on the sole topic of the Olympic games, South Korean officials said.

After a meeting between the two sides, the South again proposed that another meeting be held between the heads of the two delegations Monday afternoon.

The two sides are still divided on the agenda and format for proposed full-scale political talks to ease tensions on the divided Korean Peninsula.

The preparatory talks began last Friday with five legislators each from North and South Korea taking part. Although it was the first such meeting between the North and South in three years, little if any progress was made Friday or on the second day of the talks Saturday.

Talks End Without Agreement

SK2208053788 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0610 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The third preliminary contact for the North-South parliamentary talks failed to reach an agreement on anything as the North Korean side continuously insisted on a joint conference and joint declaration of nonaggression.

As the views of both sides were in sharp confrontation with each other, Pak Chun-kyu, our side's senior delegate, said that 20 delegates will go to Pyongyang for the main talks on 29 August and proposed a behind-the-scenes closed-door contact between the senior delegates of both sides to discuss the issue.

To this, Chon Kum-chol, the head of the North Korean side's delegation, said that he would give notification later and left the place. Thus, today's meeting ended without fruition, 2 hours and 27 minutes after the meeting began.

Burma

Council Meetings Held in Mergui, Pokokku

*BK2008162688 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 20 Aug 88*

[Text] A meeting was held at 1300 on 17 August in the Kyundana Hall of the township people's council office in Mergui to urge local elders to cooperate in working for local peace and tranquillity and enforcement of law and order in Mergui Township.

The meeting was attended by the chairman of the township party unit, party unit members, the chairman of the township people's council, responsible officers, town elders, and leaders of religious organizations.

At the meeting, U Maung Maung Naing, chairman of the township party unit, and Lieutenant Colonel Kyi Myint, chairman of the township people's council explained recent events and called for cooperation in working for local peace and tranquillity and enforcement of law and order. The leaders of the religious organizations and town elders present at the meeting pledged to live according to the law and cooperate in working for local peace and tranquillity.

A meeting was held at 1500 on 18 August in the township people's council hall in Pakkoku to receive advice on security and peace and tranquillity in Pakkoku Township from sayadaws [senior abbots] and senior monks living in the township.

It was attended by Padana Nayaka sayadaws from three major monasteries in the township, members of the Central Committee of Monks, members of the Sangha Nayaka Divisional Committee, and members of the Sangha Nayaka Township Committee. It was also attended by township party and council functionaries, responsible officers from ward people's councils, and town elders.

On behalf of the town elders, U Aung Sint from No 10 ward, U Myint Than from Ward 5, and U phone of No 15 Ward spoke at the meeting and requested the sayadaws to guide on the township security and peace and tranquility for the sake of metta [loving kindness].

Padana Nayaka Sayadawgyi U Malar from the Mahawizayan Monastery, Padana Nayaka Sayadawgyi Aggha Maha Panita Badanta Panita of Mahawithutayama Monastery, U Kelatha, vice chairman of the Divisional Sangha Nayaka Committee, chairman of the Township Sangha Nayaka Committee, and secretary of the monks gave advice at the meeting.

Lieutenant Colonel San Tin, chairman of the township people's council, presented the supplication on the plan for township peace and tranquillity.

The meeting ended after the plan to hold a coordination meeting of sayadaws of the Sangha Nayaka Divisional Committee and Sangha Nayaka Township Committee to discuss township security and peace and tranquillity was discussed.

Monks' Advice Sought

*BK2108150688 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 21 Aug 88*

[Text] A meeting was held at 1300 on 17 August in the township people's council hall in Pantanaw to receive advice on township peace and tranquillity from sayadaws [senior abbots] of the Sangha Kayaka Township Committee.

It was attended by Badanta Arissa, abbot of Qantanaw Pariyatti Monastery and member of the State Sangha Central Committee and sayadaws of the Sangha Nayaka township Committee. Also present at the meeting were U Nyan Tin, chairman of the township party unit, and party unit members; Major Aung Win, chairman of the township people's council, and members of the council; members of the three township organs; members of class and mass organizations; chairmen and secretaries of ward people's councils; members of religious and social organizations; and township elders.

The meeting opened with a prayer and giving of five precepts by the senior abbot of the Sangha State Central Committee. The chairman of the township people's council submitted a supplication to the senior abbots to appeal for peace and tranquility in the township.

The senior abbot of the state central committee told the laity to live in peace and unity in accordance with the teachings of the Buddha and to help prevent undesirable problems.

The meeting ended at 1430 after a prayer.

New Party Chairman Addresses Meeting

*BK1908145188 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1347 GMT 19 Aug 88*

[Speech by Dr Maung Maung, newly elected chairman of the Burma Socialist Program Party Central Committee, at the 11th meeting of the Central Committee held at the conference hall of the People's Assembly Building in Rangoon on 19 August—recorded]

[Text] Dear Central Committee members: It has been more than a year since party Chairman U Ne Win gave us this guidance: Let us review our experiences over the past 25 years and try to improve upon and consolidate the good deeds and also correct weaknesses from the ground up, and do whatever is feasible.

In accordance with this guidance, while we were in the process of drafting and working out fundamental economic and political reforms, the people and all of us felt

the impact of the turbulence that struck the nation, the crises, and ultimately a violent and severe storm. Who created or organized that? Who was behind it? We should not try to find answers to this with anger and vengeance, but instead should be cool and calm about it. We and the people should rejoice that there is hope and the storm is over.

On our side, we should find ways and do everything we can to avoid similar disastrous and dangerous events from emerging again in the future. Not even a month ago we introduced, discussed, and decided on the basic changes to the economy at the extraordinary party congress. If only the people had concentrated on those changes, they would have been elated. There would be so many job and work opportunities and openings for the people of all ages—including all the nationalities, the citizens, and the guest citizens—that even if they had used all of their energy, expertise, and financial resources, they would not be able to exhaust all the possibilities.

The state economy will develop only when we work together. We should produce, cultivate, sell, and distribute more, and as there will be more exports, we will be able to buy more for the people. Only then will the people be properly fed and better clothed. If we work collectively by utilizing the full strength of the people, then good short-term results will emerge within a short time and so also will the benefits that can be reaped in the long term. We just cannot substitute positive work that should be done collectively and with determination with angry confrontations, debates, slogan-chanting, and destruction. That we cannot accomplish things that way was proven during the years following independence in 1948. For the youths and middle-aged people who missed the experience of that period, they now have gained a similar experience, although to a lesser degree, through the events of recent days.

Youths today are observant, knowledgeable, and astute. Hence, they should consider the short-term lessons of the past few days as sufficient. Therefore, let us begin working together in a peaceful and calm way in the interests of the state, for economic development, and to improve the food, clothing, and shelter situation of the people. Since work begun now will not end today, our request to you is, give us a suitable amount of time so that we can work harmoniously and in peace and tranquility. While working together in an effort to solve the immediate problems of the people, such as bringing about a peaceful life, bringing down prices, and improving their economic well-being, we shall be exploring the genuine desire of the people through refined and open ways. We shall do our utmost to fulfill the just and explicit desires of the people.

Dear Central Committee members, simply lecturing others is not sufficient; we should also sincerely examine, discipline, and improve ourselves. We drafted a state constitution with a good will so that the people would play

an effective part as far as possible in all the ward or village, township, divisional, and state levels. We submitted the draft constitution to the people at all levels, made changes and resubmitted it to the people, and the process went on for 2 to 3 years in a frank and close relationship with the people, the outcome of which was the third draft constitution. This was submitted to a national referendum and approved by the people themselves.

Under this constitution, every citizen of age has the right to vote, and every citizen born of parents both of whom are citizens have the right to stand for election. One does not have to be a party member. In 1974, while preparations were being made to hold the first election, and candidates were being nominated for state and divisional people's councils, the party chairman, U Ne Win, made this plea: We have already made a tentative list of candidates who we assume would be genuine people's representatives. However, the voters should know best. Hence, if they feel the candidates are not suitable, reject them, and select ones that are suitable. At the first election, some people who were non-party members were elected to the People's Assembly. When in the assembly, some of them were even elected to the central organs of power. In every election, it was urged that good and capable individuals respected by the people in the region should be sought out and nominated as candidates. (As elections go on, as people in charge) became tired physically and mentally because of other work, and as representative seats were getting filled, consultations with the people became weakened. If we genuinely carry out consultations with the people, nominate persons who would be respected by the people at different levels, and make arrangements and changes well in advance of the elections, then people's representatives that would satisfy the criteria and be acceptable to the people would emerge. Although it is impossible to find people fully acceptable to all the people, understanding and acceptance can be achieved if we hold thorough prior consultations.

The chapter of the state constitution on fundamental principles stipulates that the people's representatives at all levels must be in touch with the people who elected them, continually report on their work to the people, and seek the advice of the people. Although people's representatives do go to the people once a year in accordance with this stipulation, we need to review ourselves as to whether we spoke too much and listened too little and did too little to fulfill the wishes of the people. It is not sufficient for us to speak or simply lay down guiding principles. We must listen patiently, take note of whatever is necessary, and do whatever is necessary, because to do that is our duty. We are the people's representatives who sought election by the people to fulfill these duties. To a certain extent this conscience and goodwill does exist among us, but that we should know more, observe more, and do more is obvious from the demonstrations staged by the innocent people.

However, I do not include among the innocent people those who take advantage of the untoward situation,

resort to violence, break the law, and "long for the stepmother instead of the mother."

This same should also apply if we are to bring good and capable people into the party. Our party has a definitive ideology and goals and was formed with discipline. It is tightly organized throughout the country with the participation of the peasantry, the workers, the students and youths, and people from all strata of life. It was formed after openly declaring that if the interests of the state conflict with that of the party, the party shall always uphold the interests of the state; there shall be no special privileges for party members, and nonparty members should not be deprived of privileges. Hence, party members should not be a privileged class but should be models in furthering the interests of the people.

We must have frank discussions within the party to study the actual conditions of the people and fulfill the just aspirations of the people. As much as we are able to do this, our party will assume even more the character of a people's party. It is essential not only assessing whether we are still weak in public relations and in carrying out the interests of the people, but also in making changes wherever necessary. We must find out the truth, because without it we cannot make decisions or act. Without actual facts, we cannot administer justice or make a correct ruling simply by turning over the pages of the law books. We also cannot bring about a cure without careful diagnosis or without knowing what causes the disease. By truth, I do not mean partial truth but a complete truth, nor something where right is mixed with wrong.

Central Committee members, there are many things that we have to do together with the people. A long journey lies ahead of us. Debating who is right and who is wrong will not bring about any results. Even if, at the moment, we are unable to fully fulfill the high hopes of the people, we should fulfill the people's aspirations as soon as possible and as much as possible after a calm and extensive study. To do this, peace and tranquillity, law and order, and national unity are vital requisites that we cannot do without. Respect for law is a vital habit. In some townships, because of the bitter experiences, people themselves are taking part in the endeavors to bring about peace and tranquillity together with the sanghas, the leaders of religious organizations, the elders, the defense forces, and the party and council organizations. This is a good example reflecting the Burmese tradition.

The sayadaws [senior monks] of the Sangha Maha Nayaka State Committee, because of their goodwill, called on the people to be civilized, to make just demands within the framework of law, and not to be overzealous if their demands are not met immediately. The sayadaws also urged the government to practice according to the 10 virtues of a ruler and to fulfill as much as possible the wants of the people which are in accordance with law. That indeed was a noble act and very effective. Similarly, the leaders of Islamic, Christian, and Hindu religious organizations also appealed to

the people of their faiths. There never has been religious discrimination or persecution in our history. The right to freedom of faith is an important stipulation of our state constitution. There have been very few events of religious conflicts without agitation from outside.

If in the same way as the sanghas, the leaders of religious organizations, the elders, and the populace have cooperated with the government to work for peace and tranquillity, teachers and students contribute to peaceful study at schools, schools will be reopened at the earliest opportunity. Schools have often been closed this academic year, and despite the high cost of education, not much education is being gained.

When the universities were closed down, students who prefer peaceful study and those who were sitting for examinations cried. It was learned that they appealed for the schools to be kept open and to allow the examinations to continue. Perhaps the people are not aware of a certain point in the order declaring military administration in Rangoon Division. One duty that the military administrator was given was to make endeavors toward peaceful study.

Education should not be something experimental from time to time. We should study carefully the changes that would actually be beneficial and act accordingly. We are endeavoring so that educated youths would have the opportunity to as quickly as possible find work that is not only appropriate with their education but also contributes to the constructive tasks of the state.

Central Committee members, today, economics is the politics of every country. The main task is to fulfill the food, clothing, and shelter needs of the people and to boost their standard of living. In accordance with this task, the extraordinary party congress has already opened up the economy, and the People's Assembly has also prescribed it as the task of the government and has empowered the State Council to implement it expeditiously. The State Council, the central organs of power, and the regional organs of power are to work as quickly as possible to make that task a success, and they have already started working.

All of us will have to work without fail toward this end. We cannot simply sit ourselves down amidst a complexity of rules, regulations, and procedures. We do not have the time. We should coordinate the rules that are essential, and a body responsible should prescribe and explain them to the people, and all organizations should work for success. We should work in the simplest and clearest of all terms. Only then will the functions start to move, and move fast. We should not try to make simple things difficult, and difficult things unworkable. With a confusion of orders and a profusion of papers, the system is so immersed in paperwork that very little is accomplished. Our goodwill will never go anywhere. Therefore, it is essential that there be new thinking, a new outlook, and new habits for us, for the party and councils at all levels,

and for the public service organizations. With peace and tranquility prevailing, it will be necessary for the people to take part in these constructive tasks with full confidence and enthusiasm.

Central Committee members, the fire of anger can be extinguished with the cool waters of love and compassion, while wrongs can be righted with truthfulness. Hence, in conclusion, let me urge you to always bear love and compassion and truth in your hearts and work with dynamism, full confidence, and determination together with the people in the tasks to promote the interests of the people. [applause]

People's Assembly Extraordinary Session Meets
BK1908162188 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The extraordinary session of the Fourth People's Assembly was held at 1015 this morning in the conference hall of the People's Assembly. It was attended by 472 out of the 482 Assembly representatives eligible to attend the session.

U Aung Myint, representative from Rangoon Division's Lamadaw township constituency, presided as alternate chairman at this morning's session while Colonel Khin Nyein, director general of the People's Assembly Office, officiated as secretary of the meeting.

First, U Aye Ko, vice chairman of the State Council, submitted a report on reforms to the state economic policy and guidelines and short- and long-term programs.

In accordance with the agenda, the presiding chairman then announced that the State Council had reported one vacant seat in the People's Assembly, two vacant seats in the State Council, and one seat in the Council of Ministers. The matter was then put on record with the approval of the People's Assembly.

The People's Assembly representative then cast secret ballots to elect Dr Maung Maung, representative from Mandalay Division's Mandalay Northeast constituency-2 and U Mehn Thet San, representative from Mon State's Chaungzon constituency-2 as members of the State Council. They received more than half of the votes in their favor.

After their election was announced by the presiding chairman, Thura U Kyaw Htin, secretary of the State Council, submitted to the assembly for approval Notification No 5/88 of the State Council on the declaration of a state of emergency and the imposition of martial law in townships in the Rangoon City Development Area of Rangoon Division. The meeting was then briefly recessed.

When the meeting reconvened, the presiding chairman submitted the matter on the election of Dr Maung Maung by the State Council as chairman of the State

Council to the People's Assembly. The matter was approved by the assembly. In accordance with Section A of Article 66 of the State Constitution, Dr Maung Maung was declared state president.

Eight representatives discussed the State Council's report on reforms to the state economic policies and guidelines and short- and long-term programs.

In accordance with the agenda, People's Assembly representatives cast open votes on the State Council Notification No 8 on the declaration of a state of emergency and martial law in townships in Rangoon Division's Rangoon City Development Area. The declaration was approved as it received more than 75 percent of the votes.

The presiding chairman then announced the motion by the State Council to postpone the election of a member to the vacant seat in the Council of Ministers. The matter was put on record with the approval of the assembly.

Assembly representatives then used the automatic voting machine to elect a member to the vacant seat in the Council of People's Attorneys. U Thauang Tin, representative from Rangoon Division's Twante constituency-2, was elected as a member of the Council of People's Attorneys as he received more than half of the votes in his favor.

Next on the agenda was discussion on the report of the State Council on reforms to the state economic policy and guidelines and short- and long-term programs. The presiding chairman announced that the State Council did not have to reply to the discussion as they support the report and the State Council, with the approval of the People's Assembly, was assigned to take necessary measures in response to the discussions of the representatives.

The presiding chairman announced the State Council report on the election of U Thauang Tin as chairman of the Council of People's Attorneys by the members of the Council of People's Attorneys. The matter was then put on record with the approval of the assembly.

Next, Thura U Kyaw Htin, secretary of the State Council, reported to the assembly on the formation of the Public Opinion Soliciting Commission and the matter was approved by the assembly. It was announced that the commission had been formed with prescribed responsibility, rights, and tenure as recommended by the State Council.

The presiding chairman then announced the recommendation of the State Council to postpone the election of members to one vacant seat in the State Council and one vacant seat in the Council of People's Justices. The matter was approved by the assembly.

The meeting ended successfully at 1530 after the presiding chairman signed the resolutions of the extraordinary meeting of the Fourth People's Assembly.

Aye Ko Views Prevailing Events

*BK2008070988 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1410 GMT 19 Aug 88*

[Speech by U Aye Ko, vice chairman of the State Council, at the extraordinary session of the Fourth People's Assembly on 19 August—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed chairman and representatives of the People's Assembly: The People's Assembly representatives are well aware of the prevailing events in Rangoon city and other towns. An objective review of events is necessary, and the state and the party are most responsible for making monks and people alike happy and conditions stable and peaceful.

In accordance with this responsibility, it is necessary to objectively and truthfully scrutinize from all angles the concrete conditions and to be analytical in seeking the correct method and solution to deal with the prevailing events of the state. In seeking such methods, we must be free from personal, regional, and racial prejudice, and subjectivism so that the concrete conditions can be seen correctly and for what they truly are. Furthermore, in seeking the root causes of the problem, we could go to a fanatical extreme if we try to achieve our objectives by force because we feel prevailing conditions are not up to our expectations. At the other extreme, if we fail to take timely and necessary action in response to the conditions, we might have to haphazardly face problems as and when they arise. If we find ourselves in this position, there will be less chance of satisfying the people's desires. We must therefore avoid the two extremes—zealousness and adventurism, and tardiness. Correct solutions must be sought in accordance with the middle way. In this regard, let me deal with the current political, economic, and social conditions in the state

The root cause of the current general discontent in the country lies in the economic and political problems. The main economic problems that the state faces today are the shortage of foreign exchange, the decline in exports and imports, insufficiency in fuel oil, decreasing production, soaring prices, and the high cost of living. As a result of such economic difficulties, there have been lack of punctuality in work attendance at some offices, departments, factories and mills; widespread misuse of state-owned cooperatives, and public funds; existence of bribery and corrupt practices; fostering of favoritism by superiors, and vice versa, and cases of mutual protection in the face of action for immoral practices; taking undue privileges; and so forth. Moreover, in almost all the departments and work places, there is social depravity, a lethargic attitude, lack of ethical virtues, inconsideration for fellow man, and low morality. Due to the lack of effective action against such an unwanted situation, people are left stranded with no one to look to for help,

and this gives rise to general dissatisfaction. Then, the majority of the working people lose confidence in the work of the party and the state, and so they try to find their own way out.

When some responsible organizations and individuals, who should maintain law and order, turn their backs on the law and start doing whatever they please, a situation arises where the already dissatisfied people also resort to illegal acts. They try to resolve their problems through every possible means, including incorrect ways. Under such a deteriorating situation, various forms of agitation and whispering campaigns also emerge. The general dissatisfaction among the people is fanned by the instigation by covert and underground saboteurs, thereby leading to a complex situation. Peace and tranquility, law and order, and discipline disappear and anarchy rears its head in some areas leading to an unstable situation.

People's Assembly representatives: The root cause of the current activities in the country is dissatisfaction with the economy and the current political and organizational conditions. Under such a situation, people are ardent in their wish to overcome their economic hardships. Hence, in order to fulfill the economic wants of the people, it has become necessary to make economic changes. An extraordinary party congress was held last July to do this, and a proposal to make changes to the state economic policy and guidelines was tabled. The congress decided to continue working on that proposal.

The objectives of making economic reforms are to get rid of the obstacles and restrictions that hamper the full utilization of production capability of the productive forces; promote the creativity of the people and make effective use of their experience and physical, and mental resources; boost production in all sectors; develop efficiency and capability; create good economic conditions and fulfill the food, clothing, and shelter needs of the people; and boost their standard of living. To make the state economy efficient and successful in accordance with these objectives, we already have in place the plan to develop the public, the cooperatives, and the private sectors uniformly, and this will help realize the aims and desires of the people.

Before the convening of the extraordinary party congress, most of the economic enterprises were in the hands of the state. The congress decided to make economic reforms after learning from experience that excessive centralized control leads to the failure in implementing economic objectives as envisaged. In accordance with the decisions taken, the cooperatives and the private sector are to invest, study, undertake participate in all economic enterprises with the exception of the teak, oil and natural gas, communications, civil aviation, and rail transport industries.

For instance, the state had previously placed restrictions on the agricultural sector. Today, under the economic reforms introduced, cultivation, production, and sale of agriculture can be undertaken by the public, the cooperatives, and the private concerns according to their wishes. Moreover, as a move to encourage the expansion of cultivated acreage, the increase in yield per acre, and multiple cropping, guarantees have already been given on the right to farm and on ownership of land as long as there is commercial production under long-term industrial raw materials, crops, and fruit-bearing tree projects. The right to buy and utilize farm machinery, and to exercise effective pricing policy and other economic ventures are also planned for implementation.

In the industrial sector also, the public, the cooperatives, and the private sectors have already been permitted to set up small-, medium-, and large-scale industries and to manufacture and produce.

In trade, the public, cooperatives, and the private sectors have already been permitted to undertake all foreign and local trade. To develop trade, expand the private services sector, undertake border trade, and expedite and regularize the flow of goods within the country, all checks and obstacles that hamper trading of goods have been lifted. With a view to continuing economic development in accordance with the changes plans have already been made to systematically draft reforms to the banking system and to the credit and cash plans. Moreover, guarantees and arrangements needed are being made to enable money derived from illegal trade to be invested in legal commercial ventures.

Moreover, to promote business, permission has already been given to undertake joint ventures both with local and overseas concerns as a means to seek capital investments and high technology and know-how, and we have already put this into practice under the current circumstances. The state has already made plans to provide effective and adequate guarantees and arrangements so that private concerns can operate with confidence. In so doing, we shall be working in a planned and systematic way while keeping in mind that the goal is for the benefit of the nation. Laws, rules, and regulations that hamper economic progress will be abolished while those that facilitate economic advancement will be legislated.

Simultaneously with economic reforms, we shall also be introducing changes to the public relations and entertainment sectors so that the people would enthusiastically and dynamically join in the tasks.

Today, the state has a monopoly on all the newspapers. But in the near future, cooperatives as well as private concerns will be given permission to run many of the newspapers, journals, and magazines. Such an operation will provide an opportunity to bring out the people's wants and desires and accurate news about what's happening at work places and in regions, as well as expose occurrences that have a negative effect on society. As we

permit the operation of publications in such a way, circumstances will improve for the exercising of civil rights and the protection of the interests of the people.

It is of utmost importance to have conditions that are conducive to the implementation of economic reforms passed by the extraordinary party congress and the emergency session of the People's Assembly. It is essential that the people understand the good prospects that can be derived from economic reforms. Economic reforms that we have already begun are not simply verbal promises but are the work that would be put into practice. Just when the economic reforms were about to be introduced, disturbances erupted in the capital of Rangoon and in the other townships.

To implement the economic reforms programs, stable political economic and social conditions are necessary. Law and order, peace and tranquility, and discipline are requisites that we must have without fail. Only when all the people work systematically, with discipline, and within the framework of law, can we undertake the development tasks. The monks and the majority of the people would experience physical and mental anguish if the current anarchical attitudes, violence, disturbances, lootings, and indiscipline continue. This is a fact that should be viewed with reason and understood by all.

Esteemed Mr Chairman, representatives of the People's Assembly: While we endeavor to expedite the success of economic reforms, we should also be carrying out short-term programs that would augment these reforms. If we study the people that have currently voiced dissatisfaction and opposition, we will find that they emerged on the basis of the unjust deeds, the wrongs committed, and the corrupt practices that the people are experiencing. To quash these feelings of discontent we shall be undertaking immediate steps to do the necessary in the political, organizational, and economic fields.

The accomplishments and the devotion to duty of the personnel who have been given assignments in the state machinery and organizations at all levels between the central and the primary levels will be scrutinized. Immediate action will be taken to reward those who are worthy while those who are not will face criticism, reeducation, or stern action depending on the extent of their responsibilities. The changes to be introduced will be from the ward, village, and township levels, which are the closest to the people, and up to the central level. Arrangements will be made so that only the people's representatives, duly elected by the people by exercising their decision-making powers, are allowed to work in these levels. Efforts will be made so that the local populace will be able to elect freely and according to their wishes individuals who may not be party members but who can genuinely further the interests of their region and the people. It is also essential that the people's representatives, elected in accordance with the wishes of the people, are experienced, qualified, virtuous, respected by the people, and respectful of the wishes of the people and

ready to fulfill it. We shall also endeavor to ensure that the bodies formed with people's representatives actually reflect the life and opinions of the people and that they genuinely serve the interests of the people. We shall be making necessary plans to bring into sharper focus people's supervision over the elected bodies and the increased responsibility of the elected bodies to the people.

Regarding people's councils, people themselves should be in touch with, and freely express their opinions to them. Arrangements will be made so that frank criticism and advice can be made regarding the improvements that should be made and work that should be done. Should there be any people's councils and people's councillors who ignore the people, action that is more severe than the present will be taken against them, and arrangements will be made up so that they can be sacked as people's representatives.

To be able to carry out political and organizational changes at the primary level, arrangements have been made so that the processes of selection, education, distribution of duties, and scrutiny will be tighter than the present at all levels. At the same time, the infrastructure of public service organizations from the central to the township levels will be reviewed so that experience and services of experts can be obtained in the management of public affairs.

While making improvements to the organizations and to the distribution of duties at the primary levels, the state constitution and other legislation that concerns political, economic, and social reforms at the national level will be amended. The constitutional and procedural rules of the party will also be improved upon.

Mr Chairman, People's Assembly representatives, the political, economic, and social problems in the country today are indeed vast and substantial. But, these problems are not insurmountable. As I have explained earlier, if we study every phenomena from all angles and choose the middle way to handle the problems correctly, nobly, and with goodwill, then we shall be able to resolve them and make life pleasant for the monks and the majority of the people.

We are to work with one mind and one view to deal with circumstances that arise. While settling political problems through politics, we should also be resolving economic problems through economic means. If we can correctly handle and settle social problems that arise out of the complexity of political and economic questions, favorable social conditions will be created.

Since the problems that have emerged in the country today are vast and wide-ranging, immediate solutions will not make them go away. We will have to take time and set long-term goals to solve them. The long-term program that we should be undertaking includes reorganization of party, state, class, and mass organizations,

freedom of criticism in all levels of organizations, prescription of duties and rights in all levels, and reforms in law and administration of justice, promotion of good conduct, and promotion of enterprises that contribute to economic reforms.

The party, state machinery, class and mass organizations as well as the entire people must participate and help in all endeavors for effective implementation of the economic reforms and simultaneous development in political, organizational, and cultural fields. In our endeavor to bring about improvements in political, organizational, economic, social and public administration fields, we will cooperate with the people and eagerly accept and seriously consider the needs and demands of the people presented within the framework of law.

At present, we have already accepted some of the demands and desires of the people. Without waiting for the submissions, we will form at this assembly a public opinion soliciting commission to expeditiously and extensively study and investigate the people's demands. Based on the demands presented in accordance with law, we will scrutinize and select those points which will be in the interest of the state and the entire people.

The political system we are practising does not put the government on one side and the people on the other side. The interest of the state and the people are identical toward our common goal. Hence, we must strive to create favorable conditions in which the state and the people are united.

Representatives of the People's Assembly, the implementation of the short- and long-term programs I have just presented and effective implementation of the economic reforms and simultaneous implementation of other programs related to the economic reforms as allowed by the prevailing political, economic and social conditions in the country are for the interests of the entire nation.

Under the current situation it will be necessary for the party, the state machinery, and class and mass organizations to strive for the success of these tasks and perform their duties properly.

In conclusion, on behalf of the State Council, I would like to urge the entire people to give priority to prevalence of law and order and local peace and tranquility and participate in the effective implementation of the economic reforms and in other state endeavors. [applause]

Delegates Discuss Aye Ko Speech

BK2108104988 Rangoon *WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY* in English 20 Aug 88 pp 6, 7

[Text] Rangoon, 19 Aug—At the emergency session of the Fourth Pyithu Hluttaw [People's Assembly] held today, eight Pyithu Hluttaw members discussed the

presentation by Vice-Chairman of the Council of State U Aye Ko on bringing about changes in economic policies and guidelines of the State and long-term and short-term tasks to be carried out.

The following is a translation of their discussions.

U Khin Myint, Mudon 2: I find that the Vice-Chairman of the Council of State has discussed the basic courses of the upheavals now occurring in all parts of the country with the greatest objectivity. The upheavals are due to economic difficulties and dissatisfaction with economic and organizational matters. The people are anxious to overcome their economic difficulties. For this, changes in the economy ought to be brought about to satisfy the people's wishes. We suggest that laws and regulations and directives conducive to the swiftest possible changes in the economy be promulgated as quickly as possible.

The objectives of changes in economic policy included removal of constraints and hindrances preventing optimum utilization of means of production. It also includes the most beneficial use of the creative powers of the people and of the mental and physical abilities and diligence. It also includes the need for increased productivity in all sectors of the economy; improved productivity; and the creation of good economic conditions so as to satisfy the food, clothing and shelter needs of the people. We fully support the measures taken for the public, cooperative and private sectors to function on an equal basis with the lowering of central control in the large number of economic activities. At one time, the State prescribed restrictions on agricultural production with the changes, production and trade can be carried out by the public, cooperative and private sectors according to their wishes. What we wish to point out here concerns the payment of land revenues in kind; those [as published] this is well understood certain points such as rates may require to be clarified in connection with paddy to be purchased for domestic consumption.

We fully support the changes to be brought about in the banking system, the loan plan and the cash plan. In this connection, we wish to suggest that certain guarantees be given to ensure public confidence in the currency being issued by the State.

We also fully endorse the measures being taken for investments and utilization of modern technology in agricultural production and permission which has been given for mutually beneficial economic ventures within and without the country to be carried out. Furthermore, assurances are being given by the State so that such joint ventures may be carried out without anxiety. However, as part of the measures to overcome current economic difficulties and to bring about lower prices in basic foodstuff, we suggest that appropriate inputs and assistance in cash and kind be provided for improvements in

paddy-milling and storage facilities, so that distribution of commodity would improve. Furthermore, better distribution of fuel oil is to be desired for improved flow of commodity.

Before long, newspaper and journal and magazine publishing works will also be carried out by cooperative and private sectors. In as much as rights are made available, the rights of citizens and protection of citizen rights will improve. In this connection, we wish to submit that one foreign corporation which has been broadcasting news based on unfounded rumours has resulted in exaggeration of actual events; this we feel is external interference in a country's internal affairs deliberately done to agitate and provoke disturbances here. This is something which should not be done by someone who is supposed to be a friend. Hence, steps be taken either through diplomatic means or in other ways to deal with the matter.

However, it is essential that peace and tranquility and stability prevail so that the economic changes decided upon by the Extraordinary Party Congress can be brought about. It is vital that the entire working people be made to fully understand the good potentials which are likely to be brought about by the economic changes. We fully endorse the declaration made to the effect that the economic changes which are being brought about are not merely empty promises but serious measures to be carried out practically and effectively. We suggest that State and divisional level organizations be coordinated in carrying out the changes.

Speediest measures should be taken to bring about appropriate changes in the political, organizational and economic fields which have been the cause of the dissatisfaction among the people. Regarding personnel from the centre to the lowest who have been assigned duties constant assessment should be made whether or not they are successful, whether or not they are dutiful and conscientious in carrying out their responsibilities and those who are worthy should be honoured. While criticism, discussion and rectification as well as effective action should be taken as quickly as possible if and when necessary. We endorse this contention fully. The problems with which we have been confronted with today are indeed great and complex. Hence they are not likely to lend themselves to quick solutions. Some problems may require time and long-term programmes. In so doing it would be necessary to carry out numerous other tasks such as restructuring of the party, the governmental machinery and of the mass and class organizations; it would also be necessary to bring about free and candid discussions at every level of the organizations; it would also be necessary to redefine individual responsibilities; there will be need to bring about improvements in judicial affairs and in the administration of justice; there will be need to improve individual moral standards and finally to carry out specific activities which will be of assistance in the economic changes envisaged. In this connection, there are certain points which have been demanded during the disturbances in many parts of the

country. Among these what the State can carry out with immediacy should be done so while other points which require time should be explained to the people so that they would understand the situation and realize the difficulty.

One of the demands is the call for a multi-party system. The fact is that the multi-party system was instrumental in bringing about bitter experiences for 14 years to our country from 1949 to 1962. Underground and above-ground groups infiltrated and threatened; capitalists and moneyed people exploited it for their own benefit; the large number of organizations also resulted in minority representation; the underground organization used threats to gain political power; putting it a nutshell the nation's unity was affected, peace and tranquility disturbed; national sovereignty and integrity was compromised. These constitute the evidence of history. So at this juncture, we should very seriously consider whether or not the multi-party system is suitable for our country.

Though it is not the multi-party system, elections of people's representatives are to be carried out from individuals who are truly able to work for the welfare of the constituencies and the people; even though the candidates may not be a Party member, election by the people may be carried out freely according to their own wishes; because of this the administrative machinery would become properly attuned to the wishes of the people. We fully endorse the formation of the Commission formed in connection with the political, economic and social and public administration improvements.

If the current political, economic and social problems are to be overcome, it is essential that the basic economic problems be resolved as rapidly as possible through short-term and long-term programmes. It is particularly important the people's experiences and their grievances be paid close attention and appropriate rectification measures taken in which individual activity as well as activity on a national scale can be carried out so as to gain the confidence of the people. It is equally important that the working people join in and work together in such endeavours for success. With this I conclude.

U Myint Than, Maymyo 2: I will make suggestions on the Council of State Vice-Chairman's presentation concerning effecting changes in the economic policies and guidelines of the State and short-term and long-term work to be carried out.

In connection with the incidents taking place in the State, the matter presented by the Vice-Chairman of the Council of State to the effect that the Party and the State are most responsible to make the rahans [monks] and the working people happy and to create peaceful conditions is true. There is a need to review and assess the objective and correctly solve them. [The WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY says "to be continued"]

Martial Law Approval Sought

BK2108095088 Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 20 Aug 88 p 6

[Text] Rangoon, 19 Aug—The following is the presentation submitted by Council of State Secretary Thura U Kyaw Htin in connection with Proclamation No 5 issued by the Council of State regarding the state of emergency and military administration:

The Council of State must report on the work it has done to the nearest session of the Pyithu Hluttaw [People's Assembly], it is prescribed in Section 71 of the Constitution. Although it is so prescribed, since there was no time to submit the work done by the Council of State to the current emergency session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, no report will be made and the work done by the Council of State will be submitted to the normal session of the Pyithu Hluttaw which will be convened in the future. However, the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw is sought in connection with Proclamation No 5 issued by the Council of State regarding the State of Emergency and Military Administration proclaimed by it in accordance with powers conferred upon it under Article 76 of the Constitution, and in connection with the state of emergency which occurred in townships in Rangoon Division Rangoon City Development area, and this matter is duly submitted.

In townships in Rangoon City Development area of Rangoon Division some students from 28 July 1988 made speeches, stuck up propaganda leaflets, distributed unlawful leaflets and carried out processions, and from 3 August 1988 carried out more processions, it was observed. Although the regional authorities tried to control the noisy demonstrations, the situation became uncontrollable, and the Council of State, to ensure security of the State and to safeguard the life and property of the working people, announced a State of Emergency in the Rangoon City Development area, and it became necessary to hand over the Military Administration power.

In connection with the proclamation of a state of emergency, Article 76 of the Constitution states:

"The Council of State may declare a state of emergency and promulgate martial law in specified areas or in the entire State, if an emergency affecting the defence and security of the State should arise. It may order mobilization in certain areas or in the entire State. Such measures shall be submitted for approval to the nearest session of the Pyithu Hluttaw."

Therefore, the Council of State, exercising the powers conferred upon it, issued Proclamation No 5 on 3 August 1988, whereby townships in Rangoon City Development area in Rangoon Division were placed under Military Administration.

As submitted above, may it be excused because the report of the Council of State could not be submitted to the current Emergency Session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, and the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw is sought in accordance with Article 76 of the Constitution, whereby the Council of State issued a proclamation proclaiming Military Administration in the Rangoon City Development area.

As soon as normal situation is restored to townships in Rangoon City Development area, Proclamation No 5 of the Council of State will be revoked, it is hereby submitted at the same time.

Opinion Commission Formed

*BK1908165788 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 19 Aug 88*

[State Council Notification No 78 on formation of the Public Opinion Soliciting Commission—dated 19 August]

[Text] I. To obtain the genuine opinions of the people on the prevailing political, economic, and public administration conditions in the country, the Public Opinion Soliciting Commission with the following persons as members has been formed at the extraordinary session of the People's Assembly held on 19 August 1988. A. Chairman, U Tin Aung Hein, chairman of the Council of People's Attorneys;

B. Member, U Than Maung, member of the State Council;

C. Member, U Sai Aung Tun, member of the State Council;

D. Member, Dr Mehn Thet San, member of the State Council;

E. Member, U Ba Nyein, vice chairman of the Workers Organization Central Body;

F. Member, U Chit Swe, vice chairman of the Peasants Organization Central Body;

G. Member, Dr Tun Tin, rector of the Mandalay Medical Institute; txt2

H. Member, U Hla Tun, representative of the People's Assembly from Kyauktan;

I. Member, U Saw Hlaing, principal of Henzada College; 2

J. Secretary, U Aung Soe, member of the Public Service Commission;

K. Joint secretary, U Khin Maung Aye, director general of the Central Court, the Council of People's Justices.

II. Following are the responsibilities and rights of the commission:

A. The commission is to extensively study and investigate the people's genuine opinions with regard to prevailing political, economic, and public administration conditions in the country.

B. The commission has the right to interview members of state organizations, associations, or representatives appointed by these organizations, associations, or individual citizens.

C. The commission must accept opinions expressed freely and frankly in person or in letters by organizations, associations, or individual citizens.

D. The commission can carry out its studies and investigations with all members or with some members. It can visit states and divisions in carrying out its work.

E. The commission is to complete its study and investigation of people's opinion by 30 September 1988—the 5th day of the waning moon of Tawthalin, Burmese Era 1350.

F. The commission is to report its work, findings, and recommendations to the seventh session of the Fourth People's Assembly which will be held in October 1988.

III. The state must not take any action against organizations or individuals on account of opinions presented to the commission.

IV. The State Council Office is to make necessary arrangements to obtain staff for the commission's work.

V. The State Council Office is to pay the expenses incurred by the commission.

VI. The tenure of the commission ends on the day it submits its report.

[Signed] Maung Maung, chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma.

Health Department Gives Casualty Figures

*BK2008151288 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 20 Aug 88*

[Text] There were casualties during the 10 August event which took place in the afternoon near the Rangoon General Hospital. The Health Department reports that only three female nurses and a male trainee nurse from the Rangoon General were wounded.

Of the four wounded, Nurse Ma Thauung Khin, Ma Sein Sein Yi, and Male Trainee Nurse Maung Myo Thant were hospitalized while Nurse Ma San San Aye was not hospitalized as her injuries did not require hospitalization.

It was also reported that no other doctors or nurses were wounded during the event.

The Department of Health has reported that among the patients who were genuinely brought to public hospitals in Rangoon since the 8 August affair there were only 267 wounded, 112 dead, and 267 persons who received treatment. Of those who received treatment, 131 have been discharged and 136 continue to receive treatment in the hospitals.

80 More Detainees Released 19 August

*BK1908170388 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 19 Aug 88*

[Text] Of the people detained in the Rangoon Division Military Administration Region for security and law and order reasons since 8 August, 80 persons were released today by the authorities concerned in the presence of the people's councils concerned following pledges by their guardians.

Before the handing over, the authorities concerned lectured the detainees. They were sent home by car together with their parents and guardians.

Of the 80 released today upon pledges by guardians and parents, there were 27 male students, 21 female students, 23 male civilians, and 9 female citizens.

Report on 20 August Releases

*BK2008153088 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 20 Aug 88*

[Text] Of the people detained in the Rangoon Division's military administration region for security and law and order reasons since 8 August, 73 more were released at noon today by the authorities in the presence of people's councils concerned following pledges by their guardians.

Before the handing over, the authorities concerned lectured the detainees. The detainees together with their parents and guardians were sent home in cars.

Of the 73 released, there was 1 female student, 68 male government employees, and four females.

Report on 21 August Releases

*BK2108151988 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 21 Aug 88*

[Text] Of the people detained in the Rangoon Division's military administration region for security and law and order reasons since 8 August, 100 more were released at noon today by the authorities in the presence of people's councils concerned following pledges by their guardians.

Before the handing over, the authorities concerned lectured the detainees. The detainees together with their parents and guardians were sent home in cars.

Of the 100 released, there were 13 male students, 25 male civilians, and 62 female civilians.

'500' Feared Dead in Sagaing 'Massacre'

*BK2008022288 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
20 Aug 88 pp 1, 3*

[By Cimi Suchonthan]

[Text] More than 500 students and monks were feared killed by police gunfire in a demonstration in Sagaing, a town in upper Burma, according to two Western travellers yesterday.

"At 5 p.m. on August 8 a group of students marched on Sagaing police station following the arrest of other students an hour earlier.

"It was the day a general strike was called in Burma against the Sein Lwin government," said one of the travellers on reaching Bangkok from Mandalay, 20 km from Sagaing.

"They were joined by about 10,000 peasants and villagers from nearby Ohndaw township (about 10 km from Sagaing)," he said, explaining that the massacre was recounted to him by a number of monks and villagers.

"Someone started throwing stones at the police station.

"The police began firing. It was not clear whether they were firing into the air.

"A male student shouted to the crowd: 'Don't panic, this is a peaceful demonstration.' The student was shot dead.

"A monk repeated the student's plea against violence. The police shot him five times.

"When the monk fell, a girl student shouted: 'We're not afraid to die!' She was also shot dead.

"The police then fired indiscriminately into the crowd. None of the demonstrators was armed," he continued.

"A leading official of the Sagaing People's Assembly or People's Council reportedly shot at the crowd with a Sten gun (a British made WWII machine gun)," he said.

"Some students ran to get help from an army outpost outside the town. The commander moved troops into the town to investigate.

"It took some time for the soldiers to arrive. They found the police had fled.

"Official reports said soldiers found 31 bodies. But Sagaing villagers said there were 35 bodies.

"For some reason the other four bodies were not included (in the official reports)," he said.

The man, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, said after the massacre, more bodies were found.

"Some policemen were among the dead, believed victims of revenge killings.

"We were reliably told that many bodies were washed up on Nauchikyun Island downstream from Sagaing," the traveller said.

"Anything thrown into the (Irrawaddy) river from Sagaing usually ends up on the island, we were told."

A few days after the massacre, he said, some people noticed a foul smell coming from the police station.

"The army investigated and found 20 bodies in a well inside the police compound," he said.

"The official (death toll) is 31 people dead," said a woman traveller who corroborated the man's account, also on condition of anonymity.

Monks and villagers gave her similar reports of the shooting, she said.

"It is widely believed that 557 people died in the Sagaing massacre. Some say the death toll may be as high as 1,000."

She said children, some 10 or younger, joined the demonstrations and were feared to be among the victims.

It was also feared Sagaing's senior Buddhist monk, U-Nyannawbatha, secretary-director of the Sangha Maha Nayaka, a government committee of Buddhist monks, had been killed, she said.

"He is believed missing after joining the marchers in Sagaing," she said.

Security Units Arrest 13 for Looting in Insein

BK2108145288 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Members of security units and the People's Police Force yesterday evening arrested 13 persons who had been reported by responsible people of various wards in Unsein township to have committed acts of violence and looting.

At about midnight last night some 20 looters armed with projectiles and catapults entered (Hai Holi) Rice Mill near Kamayut Jailway station on Strand Road in Hlaing Township and forcefully drove out the two guards. They fled in a boat after stealing 900 sheets of corrugated iron stored in the rice mill.

At about 2200 on 20 August about 50 persons approached the Rade Corporation's rice warehouse in Wundwin's No 3 ward, but fled when they were confronted by township and ward security units. At about 2300 in the evening some 100 people near a rest house in North Nyaunggon village 1 mile north of Wundwin stopped vehicles coming from the north and extorted Kyat 100 to Kyat 1,000 from each vehicle.

Radio Reports Trouble in Aung San, Pegu

BK2008154688 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] At about 1800 on 19 August some 30 unscrupulous persons, armed with sticks, knives, and catapults came to the project building of the bran factory on Strand Road in Aung San town and looted 40 sheets of corrugated iron, 170 pounds of nails, 1 sheet of plain timber, and 5 gallons of paint.

A responsible person found a 9-mm pistol and 9 shells in a garbage dump near a bridge on Dubern Road in Mayangon Township this afternoon. The weapon was handed in to the No 1 Defense Equipment Factory.

At about 2000 yesterday the Pegu Township People's Police Force received a report that a group of persons had put up barricades on (Wapodat) bridge on the Rangoon-Pegu road to extort money from motorists. The police arrested 12 civilians, who had committed robbery, together with Kyat 6,152 robbed from vehicle No Nga 356, 1 tarpaulin, and a sack of (?dried beef).

A group of riotous youth demonstrators arrived at (Thitkantan) village located north of Pegu at about 1800 on 19 August in a Hilux van. Three of the demonstrating youths were injured when villagers beat them up for acting provocatively when their demand to use a vehicle belonging to U Kyaw Yin was refused. The demonstrating youths then fled toward Pegu after threatening to burn down the village.

Reaction to Maung Maung's Appointment Reported

Rangoon 'Quiet but Tense'

BK2008084688 Hong Kong AFP in English 0823 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Rangoon, Aug 20 (AFP)—Students vowed Saturday to resume anti-government demonstrations until they had rid Burma of its rigid one-party system, despite the appointment of Burma's first civilian president in 26 years.

"We shall carry on with our peaceful demonstrations until total victory is achieved," a diplomat here quoted a student as saying amid reports that a general strike had been called for Monday.

Attorney General Maung Maung, 63, lawyer, author, and close associate of former Burmese strongman Ne Win, was named the country's president Friday and chairman of the ruling Burma Socialist Program Party (BSPP). [passage omitted]

(Some diplomats and Burma-watchers contacted by phone from Bangkok predicted that the students were unlikely to wait until Monday to take to the streets of Rangoon where the military were reported to be out in force.

("The volcano will start erupting again as of tonight," said one reliable Burmese source contacted in Bangkok.)

Rangoon residents said it appeared Saturday that only some of the older generation feel Mr Maung Maung should be given time.

"They (the party) should be given time to prove themselves. Not even the king of celestials can accomplish things straight away," said one resident. [passage omitted]

Downtown Rangoon was tense but quiet early Saturday, with people snatching up the country's six state-run newspapers carrying Mr Maung Maung's speech. The newspapers were selling at three times their official price due to demand, residents said.

The military were out in force in the capital and its 27 townships, which remained under martial law, and government offices, the target of student demonstrators, had closed for the weekend. [passage omitted]

'Peace', 'Tranquillity' Restored

BK2008152088 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Peace and tranquillity have been restored in townships and wards in the Rangoon City Development Area and the satellite townships with traffic moving as usual and people going about their business normally.

Business at ward markets has also become normal. Town elders have been working in cooperation with township authorities concerned and security units in ensuring peace and tranquility and the enforcement of law and order.

Health Minister Reportedly Resigns

BK2008102288 Hong Kong AFP in English 1019 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Rangoon, Aug 20 (AFP)—Health Minister Tun Way has resigned in the wake of a shooting earlier this month at Rangoon General Hospital by soldiers enforcing martial law, reliable sources close to the government said here Saturday.

Rally at Rangoon Hospital

BK2008151788 Hong Kong AFP in English 1458 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 20 (AFP)—Several thousand people rallied Saturday at Rangoon General Hospital demanding an end to Burma's one-party system, less than 24 hours after the naming of a new leader in the country, travelers and diplomats from Rangoon said.

There were rumors that demonstrators, disappointed with new leader Maung Maung's failure to call a referendum on the introduction of a multi-party system, were ready to march on the capital from the northern city of Mandalay, Rangoon-based diplomats said.

Reliable sources in Rangoon close to the government said Saturday Burmese Health Minister Tun Way had resigned Friday in the wake of a shooting by soldiers August 10 at the General Hospital, which has since become a center for student-led anti-government protest.

Students in Rangoon called Saturday in posters put up throughout the city for a general strike Monday against the naming Friday of Maung Maung, attorney general and ruling party stalwart, as Burma's new president and party chairman.

Between 3,000 and 5,000 demonstrators, including Buddhist monks, heard speeches at the hospital Saturday while leaflets were distributed calling for democracy, travelers arriving in Bangkok from Rangoon said.

They said the speeches, some delivered by monks, focused on the fact that Mr. Maung Maung had offered no hope for a referendum or an end to the one-party system in a nationwide address he made Friday after being named leader.

People in the crowd, many of them students, said they regarded Mr. Maung Maung as a "puppet", but not as hated as former military strongman Sein Lwin and predicted "he won't last long," the travelers said.

It was the first major demonstration in the capital since Mr. Maung Maung was named to replace hardliner Sein Lwin, whose 17 days in power ended when he resigned August 12 after five days of nationwide protests against his rule.

Some leaflets posted on the hospital walls called for the return to Burma of Aung San Oo, the son of Burmese founding father Aung San, who led the fight for independence from Britain achieved in 1948, the travelers said.

It appeared to be the first time the students had come up with a non-party figure they thought could lead the country, observers here said.

"We people propose that Aung San Oo together with the leaders from the All-Burmese students union and intellectuals and economists should cooperate in the rehabilitation of Burma," said the leaflets signed by the United Democratic party of Burma and dated August 14.

People at the hospital said Mr. Aung San Oo was currently working at the United Nations and had been denied a visa to return from the United States, where they said he lived, according to the travelers.

The daughter of Aung San, Aung San Suu Kyi, is in Rangoon and has sent a letter calling for a consultative committee to be set up to mediate between student-led protestors and the government, Rangoon-based diplomats said.

Her letter is part of a wave of petitions from lawyers, journalists, and other professional circles to find a legal and peaceful way to resolve escalating civil strife, they said.

Anti-government demonstrations were continuing in Mandalay, 544 kilometers (340 miles) north of Rangoon, where hundreds of thousands of people have protested over the past week, travelers reaching Rangoon said.

Rangoon-based diplomats reached from Bangkok late Saturday said rumors were strong that the Mandalay demonstrators were about to march on Rangoon.

Posters in Rangoon calling for a general strike said the naming of Mr. Maung Maung did not go far enough towards answering their calls for a change to democracy in the authoritarian Southeast Asian nation.

They rejected his setting up a commission to poll public opinion as a far cry from their call for a referendum on whether to continue the single-party rule set up by General Ne Win after coming to power in a 1962 coup.

It was a student-led general strike call that triggered the August 8-12 nationwide street demonstrations which toppled Mr. Sein Lwin. Rangoon-based diplomats estimate that more than 1,000 people died in the unrest.

Burmese authorities Saturday released another 73 people arrested in the demonstrations, bringing the total freed since Tuesday to 318, Burmese state radio monitored here said.

Security was reported to be strong in Rangoon Saturday, with troops concentrated at key points and the Shwedagon and Sule Pagodas, centers of student protest, closed.

Truckloads of troops were "around the corner" from the demonstration at the general hospital but did not interfere, U.S. tourist Edward Dumont said here.

The Burma Medical Association had issued a statement Thursday condemning the August 10 incident, in which it said troops opened fire killing two people and wounding four medical personnel.

Observers in Rangoon said Mr. Tun Way stepped down because of growing popular sentiment against the August 10 incident, during which Rangoon-based diplomats said soldiers fired on blood donors mistaken for protestors.

Burmese state radio monitored here said two nurses were wounded when security forces fired on protestors attacking an ambulance and troop vehicles.

"We shall carry on with our peaceful demonstrations until total victory is achieved," a Rangoon-based diplomat quoted a student saying Saturday.

Mandalay, Province Protests

*BK2108142288 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 21 Aug 88*

[Text] On 20 August 16 groups [aphwe baung] held demonstrations in Mandalay. The monks provided supervision to prevent those bent on violence from committing acts of violence and urged that the demonstrations be peaceful. At 1330 on 20 August the monks handed over five persons suspected of pickpocketing to the No 9 Police Station and they have been detained by the police.

At 2100 on 20 August monks and town elders went around wards near Eindawya Pagoda in a jeep and urged the people not to engage in acts of violence and destruction, not to drink alcohol, and not to gamble and said action would be taken if such activities took place.

Monks and students who opened a strike center at Chanthagyi Pagoda in Meiktila and who had been demonstrating interrogated three suspicious persons at 1230 today. One of the persons was captured while two others escaped. Gunpowder and gunpowder sticks were found on the captured person.

Demonstrations have been taking place in Sagaing Division's Monywa since 8 August. The demonstrators are taking measures to exclude those bent on violence. As of today, there are no riotous persons and persons bent on violence and the security units have not opened fire to disperse the demonstrators.

It has been learned that the township supervision committee went to Myoma ward No 18 and explained the speeches by the chairman and general secretary of the Burma Socialist Program Party.

At about midnight on 20 August 200 persons with charcoal smeared on their faces and armed with sticks, knives, and weapons tried to enter Sagaing Division's

Ye-u to demonstrate. Monks and students who wanted to demonstrate peacefully told them they should not demonstrate at night and prevented them from entering the town.

Leaders of those holding demonstrations at Aung Preaching Hall in Magwe held a meeting at 1500 on 20 August and announced that their group of demonstrators would be called the group in charge of presenting public opinion and that they had decided to present their demands peacefully to the Public Opinion Soliciting Commission. Similarly, peaceful demonstrations took place in other district towns. There were no acts of violence.

Rally in Henzada

BK2108145488 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] A demonstration was held at 2000 on 20 August in front of the railway station in Henzada. One of the demonstrators, who claimed to be the son of a member of parliament and minister during the AFPFL [Anti-Fascist Freedom League] era, said in his speech that he had experienced the evils of the multi-party system. He said the policy of the Burma Socialist Program Party is good. However, an opposition party is needed to point out the deficiencies and practices of some of the authorities. He called on the demonstrators in Henzada to avoid destructive activities and called on them to make their demands peacefully within the framework of the law to the Public Opinion Soliciting Commission which has U Saw Qlaing, principal of Henzada Kollege, as one of its members.

'Rumors' of March From North

BK2108053088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 21 (AFP)—Government troops remained in force in the streets of Rangoon Sunday one day ahead of an anti-government general strike called by students to try to force an end to one-party rule.

Rangoon-based diplomats meanwhile reported persistent rumors that protestors, embittered over the failure of new leader Maung Maung to call a referendum, were marching on the capital from the northern city of Mandalay.

"Over the past few days they have been bringing more troops back into the city," said one diplomat in the capital Sunday.

"Early Sunday morning there was a visible military presence downtown—concentrations of troops and armored cars," he said.

The diplomat added that the troops—estimated by travellers Saturday at 30,000—easily outnumbered those present in Rangoon streets August 8, the day the students called a general strike to try to force the ouster of military hard-liner Sein Lwin.

Mr. Sein Lwin resigned five days later after a brutal military crackdown on demonstrators left about 1,000 dead countrywide by diplomatic estimates. The government Saturday conceded that more than 100 died and nearly 300 were injured in Rangoon alone.

Mr. Sein Lwin was replaced by civilian Attorney General Maung Maung as Burma Socialist Program Party chairman and president Friday, but the diplomats and many Rangoon residents said Saturday that the Burmese had reacted with disappointment.

They said Mr. Maung Maung, a close and longtime associate of former Burmese strongman Ne Win, had in his maiden speech offered no hope of an end to the impoverished country's 26-year-old one-party system, the demonstrators' main demand.

Instead he said an 11-member Grievance Commission had been set up to monitor public opinion and that no one who reported to it would be prosecuted.

Some posters in the city advertising Monday's general strike said the naming of Mr. Maung Maung did not go far enough towards answering the student calls for a change to democracy.

Rangoon Hospital Situation

BK2108074488 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 21 Aug 88

[By Kate Webb]

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 21 (AFP)—Rangoon General Hospital is a dilapidated, red-brick Victorian building on a corner in the run-down commercial district of the Burmese capital.

Today it is the central rallying point for anti-government demonstrators, its decaying walls and main entrance plastered with rain-sodden posters calling for democracy and the overthrow of Burma's one-party system, visitors returning here from Rangoon said.

Students and monks gather daily at the hospital—bracing themselves to walk past ever-present truckloads of armed government troops posted out of sight around the corner, they said.

Between 3,000 and 5,000 people rallied at the hospital Saturday demanding an end to the one-party system less than 24 hours after new Burmese leader Maung Maung was named, travelers and diplomats from Rangoon said.

People in the crowd, many of them students, said they regarded Mr. Maung Maung as a "puppet," but said he was not as hated as former military strongman Sein Lwin and predicted "he won't last long," the travelers said.

Inside the hospital in ill-equipped wards lie some of the hundreds who were wounded when government troops repeatedly opened fire on unarmed student-led protesters August 8-12.

By unofficial count more than 1,000 people died, thousands were wounded and thousands more arrested countrywide during that week.

The government announced Friday that the hospital had taken in 112 dead and 267 wounded in the three days from August 8-10. The announcement, made on Radio Rangoon, did not give figures for any other Burmese hospital.

Outside the three-story building, student leaders and monks in rust-red robes deliver strident speeches over megaphones to all who will listen, calling for the fight "until victory" to continue, the travelers said.

Their listeners crowd together, squatting on the hard gravel of the front yard and perched on surrounding walls and rooftops.

They tell the few foreign tourists who can still get into Burma—since the government stopped issuing tourist visas at the height of the first demonstrations—"tell the world about our fight, tell them about the shooting, tell them we want democracy."

Some ask tourists to ask their governments to stop aid to the one-party government they hate, and to send aid through other channels.

The hospital has been prevented, the students tell tourists, from accepting offers of medicines from diplomats.

But cash donations are coming into the hospital to buy basic medicines on the black market.

One doctor, nurses told a traveler, had given 2,500 kyats—50 dollars at the black market rate but a sum representing about seven months of an average salary at the official rate—out of his own pocket for medicines.

Most visitors and protesters stop at a makeshift shrine in the grounds to leave flowers where troops reportedly opened fire on a queue of blood donors at the hospital on August 10.

Doctors said two bystanders were killed and four nurses were seriously injured in the shooting. The government continues to broadcast statements on Rangoon Radio saying no one died in the incident.

Reports reaching Bangkok from Rangoon Saturday said Health Minister Tan Wai had resigned Friday over the incident.

It is at the hospital and from the posters on its walls, not at the now-shuttered pagodas surrounded by barbed wire that used to serve as protest rallying points, that travelers can read the mood of the demonstrators.

"After Maung Maung was named, their mood was angry, but they were scared," said one tourist who left Rangoon and arrived here Saturday.

He said the doctors had hastily discharged more than 100 seriously injured patients in anticipation of renewed demonstrations and a new crackdown by the well-disciplined troops.

The August 8-12 student-led demonstrations forced the hard-line military leader Sein Lwin to resign after only 17 days in power.

The students have seen their protest, which began boiling in March and intensified in June, mushroom to a nationwide uprising involving some 30 towns and cities and Burma's intellectuals and professionals, the travelers said.

"Now they are angry, thwarted, but unsure how much longer the population can support them," one said.

Troops Seal Off Rangoon

BK2108134588 Hong Kong AFP in English 1336 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Bangkok, August 21 (AFP)—Burmese Government troops began sealing off entry points to Rangoon Sunday as anti-government demonstrators held nationwide rallies in preparation for a general strike Monday to force an end to one-party rule, diplomats and residents said.

The protestors, who travelers reaching here said were out in force in most major towns and cities Sunday, had in some northern towns tried to commandeer vehicles to drive to Rangoon on Monday, reliable sources said.

The Navy Sunday stopped all boat traffic arriving from the neighbouring oil-refining town of Syriam across the Rangoon River as part of an apparent effort to seal Rangoon off from the rest of the country, the residents said.

In the city's center, some 1,500 students, professionals and monks rallied at Rangoon General Hospital Sunday, witnesses said.

But troops who earlier in the day had stripped the red-brick walls of scores of anti-government posters made no move to disperse them, they said.

There was no immediate confirmation of persistent rumors in the capital that demonstrators in the northern city of Mandalay, which diplomats have said is "virtually in the hands of anti-government protestors," had tried to go ahead with a threatened march on the capital.

However, travelers reaching Rangoon said Buddhist monks with loud hailer circulated through the city Friday night calling on members of local government administrative units to resign.

They told the members of the peoples' councils that it was their "last chance" and that they should hand over the keys of their offices.

The strike was called only hours after the country's first civilian leader, former Attorney General Maung Maung, installed Friday in an apparent effort to appease the protestors, dashed hopes that the government would yield to the demonstrators' demands for a referendum.

Mr Maung Maung is the second Burmese leader to be appointed since former strongman Ne Win stepped down on July 23.

The first, military hardliner Sein Lwin, was forced to resign on August 12 after only 17 days in power during which mass demonstrations and a harsh military crackdown left more than 1,000 dead by unofficial count.

Travelers, including Burmese students, reaching Bangkok from Rangoon Sunday confirmed reports that demonstrators in Mandalay had numbered between 100,000 and 200,000 daily for the past few days.

They said many of the demonstrators wore professional clothes in marches and rallies—doctors in white, lawyers in robes and police in uniform.

Residents and diplomats in Rangoon said the government appeared to be prepared to allow the virtual takeover by demonstrators of many northern towns and cities.

The government considers Rangoon the political hub of the country, and believes that what happens in Rangoon will decide everything, said one diplomat.

Analysts in Bangkok said they had received reports that demonstrators in many towns, including Pegu, 50 miles to the north of the capital, had been attempting to commandeered vehicles to drive to Rangoon Monday.

Burmese travelers reaching Bangkok from Rangoon Sunday said checkpoints equipped with barbed wire had been set up on access roads to the capital.

The travelers, some of them students, declined to be identified by name but said they had had little trouble leaving the country under relaxed rules for acquiring passports introduced by the government last week.

Diplomats in Rangoon reached from Bangkok have said Monday will be a test of whether the protestors will be prepared to take to the streets a second time after the harsh military suppression of demonstrations during the week of August 8-12.

Mr Maung Maung has called on the Burmese people to give him time to heal the ills of the economy tattered by 26 years of rigid socialism and to weed corrupt elements out of the government.

Reliable reports from Rangoon residents said Sunday the respected Burmese Bar Association and the medical profession intended to join the strike.

'Massive Demonstrations' Held

*OW2208062688 Tokyo KYODO in English 0609 GMT
22 Aug 88*

[Text] Rangoon, Aug. 22 KYODO—Massive demonstrations, the first under the government of President Maung Maung inaugurated last Friday, were reported in various parts of Burma on Monday.

Some 10,000 citizens, government employees and laborers, in response to student calls for a general strike, started a demonstration in the capital demanding democratization.

Informed sources said in the second largest city of Mandalay, 700,000-800,000 people staged a demonstration.

The sources said about 100,000 people took part in a demonstration in Taunggyi.

Similar demonstrations were also held in other major cities, including Moulmein, Pegu and Prome, the sources said.

Doctors, Firemen Join March

*BK2208085088 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0803 GMT 22 Aug 88*

[From the "International Report" program]

[Excerpts] In the Burmese capital, Rangoon, striking dock workers, doctors, and lawyers have joined thousands of protestors in the streets in yet another day of unrest. The protestors are not satisfied with the appointment of U Maung Maung as the country's first civilian ruler in more than 26 years. U Maung Maung, the former attorney general, replaced disgraced President U Sein Lwin after he spent only 17 days in office. The protestors are also demanding an end to one-party government, the release of political prisoners, and reform of Burma's collapsed economy. Radio Australia's Indochina correspondent, Tony Hill, filed this report from Bangkok:

[Begin recording] Observers in Rangoon say several thousand protestors are marching in the city. Dock workers are reported to have gone on strike and joined

the marches. Students and workers have been joined by groups of doctors and nurses, lawyers in their black robes, and firemen in uniform calling for the removal of the one-party state and the release of detainees.

Troops were reported stationed at key points throughout the city today, and some roads have been sealed off in an apparent attempt to prevent protestors from reaching the crossroads at the city center—a focal point of protests.

A large crowd was reportedly marching in the city of Mandalay to the north. However, crowds in the capital are not reported so far to be anything as large as the hundreds of thousands who marched in Rangoon about 2 weeks ago. [passage omitted on Sein Lwin's resignation and Maung Maung's election]

The emergence of doctors, lawyers, and other professional and middle class groups has given broader support to the protests. The health minister, Tun Way, is believed to have been sacked on the weekend after doctors called for his removal. The doctors had attacked the gunning down of medical staff at Rangoon General Hospital and an alleged attempt by authorities to misrepresent the doctors' statement in the state media.

Observers said it is hoped the removal of the health minister may free up the supply of emergency medical supplies to hospitals in Rangoon and other towns. They say people are dying in hospitals because of moves by the Health Ministry to actively obstruct the delivery of emergency supplies sent from overseas and donated by various embassies. At the very least 1,000 people are believed to have died in clashes between security forces and protestors in the 5 days before the resignation of Sein Lwin. Many more people were wounded, and hospitals are being seriously overburdened and unable to provide basic facilities or drugs to treat many patients.

Observers say the continuing protests today indicate that many people are dissatisfied with the limited reforms offered by the government. However, it is still not certain how large or widespread the support will be for further protests. [end recording]

'Heavy' Military Presence Noted

BK2208072088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0630 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 22 (AFP)—Thousands of anti-government protesters took to the streets of Rangoon on Monday morning, responding to a call for a general strike to topple the country's rigid one-party system, residents and diplomats said.

"Early morning the city was calm, then by mid-morning they (the protesters) were on the streets. There didn't seem to be many monks in the crowd but the lawyers

were there marching in their robes," one diplomat [passage indistinct] estimate the numbers, but there would be thousands, mostly in small groups of several hundred," he said.

The military presence in the city—where residents estimate some 30,000 troops are on patrol and manning roadblocks—was "very heavy," with armored cars patrolling, he said.

"There was one unconfirmed report of troops shooting, but there is no confirmation of that," he added.

The general strike was seen as the first major test of the ruling Burma Socialist Program Party's attempts to assuage the demonstrators by appointing a civilian, former Attorney General Maung Maung, as the country's president and party chief on Friday.

The country's artists and writers made a formal appeal through the country's senior Buddhist clergy saying they would take part in "peaceful protests" Monday and urging the military not to open fire.

The Rangoon diplomat said there were reports that top film stars were addressing the crowds, but that he personally had not witnessed the actors speaking.

During the week of August 8-12, government troops repeatedly opened fire on demonstrators throughout the country, leaving some 1,000 dead and thousands injured by unofficial count. The government has admitted to fewer than 200 dead. The harsh military crackdown forced the resignation of military hard-liner Sein Lwin after only 17 days in power. His replacement by Maung Maung failed to satisfy the demonstrators when he held out no hope of abolishing the one-party system introduced by former strongman Ne Win 26 years ago after a military coup.

Witnesses on Rangoon Protests

BK2208104888 Hong Kong AFP in English 1037 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Rangoon, Aug 22 (AFP)—Thousands of anti-government demonstrators took to the streets here Monday to challenge new Burmese leader Maung Maung as troops were reported to be stopping more protestors from entering the capital, witnesses said.

Hundreds of thousands of people also staged protest marches in the northern cities of Mandalay, Monywa, Prome, and Taunggyi as well as Moulmein in the south, according to reports reaching here by telephone and from travellers.

Leaflets distributed in the capital last week called for a nationwide general strike Monday.

Mass protests August 8-12 forced the resignation of state president and ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) Chairman Sein Lwin after just 17 days in power. Mr. Sein Lwin was appointed after Burma's leader for 26 years, General Ne Win, resigned as BSPP chairman on July 23.

Mr. Maung Maung was appointed president and party chief on Friday.

Some 20,000 to 30,000 veteran soldiers, enforcing martial law in Rangoon since August 3, set up temporary roadblocks on several main streets but removed them as soon as the marchers changed direction, witnesses said.

Troops made no attempt to disperse or confront the marchers, witnesses said.

The demonstrators appeared to be taking care not to let violence erupt, witnesses said, adding that thousands of onlookers had appeared on the streets.

The protestors began gathering at Rangoon General Hospital, in the run-down commercial district of the capital, which has become a rallying point since troops reportedly opened fire on a queue of blood donors on August 10, killing several people.

At 10.45 a.m. (0515 GMT) they moved out of the hospital premises and started marching south along Lanmadaw Street, holding banners and flags and shouting slogans calling for an end to Burma's single-party system and the return of democracy, witnesses said.

The marchers included students, prominent authors, artists, movie actors, singers, lawyers, doctors, nurses and Muslim and Buddhist religious leaders, witnesses said.

The marchers moved along several main roads, swelling in number as they approached the U.S. Embassy in the city centre, witnesses said.

In Merchant Street outside the embassy, the protestors put up a makeshift platform and made speeches denouncing the government and calling for democracy, witnesses said.

According to unconfirmed but persistent reports, hundreds of demonstrators from outside Rangoon were attempting to converge on the capital.

A large concentration of troops was reported at Htauk-Kyant, 34 kilometres (20 miles) north of Rangoon to prevent entry to the capital, according to travellers reaching here Monday.

Many shops and offices were closed and security forces guarded important state buildings, including city hall and banks, witnesses said.

Elsewhere, the capital was said to be quiet, with people going about their business as normal, witnesses said.

A general strike August 8 led to five days of nationwide protests which troops suppressed, leaving more than 1,000 people dead, according to diplomats. The unrest forced the resignation of Mr. Sein Lwin.

Monday's march was the first time since August 8 that such a representative mass rally was staged, witnesses said. [passage omitted on background of unrest]

Mandalay Demonstration Reported

OW2208111688 Tokyo KYODO in English 1057 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Rangoon, Aug. 22 KYODO—Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators rallied peacefully in Burma's second largest city of Mandalay on Monday testing the staying power of newly inaugurated President Maung Maung, a native of the city and the country's first civilian leader in 26 years.

Responding to calls by student dissident leaders for a nationwide general strike on Monday, the demonstrators in Mandalay, a centrally-located city 600 kilometers north of Rangoon, and their counterparts throughout the country, took to the streets to demand the institution of democratic reforms and an end to decades of military-dominated autocratic rule.

Reports of violent encounters between demonstrators and security forces were few on Maung Maung's fourth day in office, unlike the ruthlessly suppressed demonstrations seen in the closing days of former leader Ne Win's rule and during the short-lived regime of recently ousted leader Sein Lwin.

Sources in Burma, however, reported that a shooting incident may have taken place near the city of Monywa, some 100 kilometers west of Mandalay, when protesters making their way to the capital to join protests there came into conflict with security forces.

The unconfirmed reports said that the demonstrators eventually gained the upper hand, although the number of casualties is not yet known.

Shops in Mandalay itself were closed and traffic was brought to a standstill, as railway and bus company employees joined with teachers, shopkeepers, housewives, children, and others to rally in the streets for a multi-party democratic system of government and the release of political prisoners.

For lack of anything better, demonstrators waved ceremonial robes in place of flags. Some were seen waving the fighting peacock flag that was a rallying focus during the wars of independence against Britain.

Questioned on their reasons for participating in the protests, many demonstrators charged that the choice of Maung Maung as leader was simply a "trick" carried out by the People's Assembly, Burma's parliament, to stall for time.

Maung Maung was appointed last Friday to the dual posts of state president and chairman of the ruling Burmese Socialist Program Party (BSPP), succeeding hardline former Army General Sein Lwin, who held the reins of government for a mere 17 days before acceding to demands by enraged citizens that he resign.

In the capital city, a throng of over 20,000 citizens gathered as on previous days in front of Rangoon General Hospital from around 10 a.m. to listen to a succession of spirited antigovernment speeches.

The students, Buddhist monks, medical practitioners, lawyers, public workers, writers and other citizens, many wearing the uniforms of their professions, waved banners and shouted slogans such as "Down with Ne Win fascism" as they proceeded down the streets towards the Sule Pagoda.

The protesters were blocked from reaching their destination, however, by barricades of barbed wire set up and reinforced by armed troops, some three divisions of which have reportedly been mobilized in Rangoon itself.

A group of prodemocratization citizens held a meeting and afterwards presented an official of the U.S. Embassy with a letter requesting foreign countries be informed of Burmese events.

Cambodia

Communique Announces Retirements, Appointments
*BK2008115988 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1100 GMT 20 Aug 88*

["Council of State Communique"]

[Text] The cabinet of the Council of State would like to make public that as of 0730 on 20 August 1988 an ordinary meeting of the Council of State was held at the cabinet of the Council of State in the presence of Comrade Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of State, to study and decide on a number of matters as follows:

1. It is decided to dissolve the office of the minister of economic and cultural cooperation with Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and other fraternal socialist countries.
2. It is decided to create a general directorate for tourism under the authority of the Council of Ministers.
3. It is decided that the following are to retire: Comrade Mam Sabun, currently minister of social action and war invalids; Comrade Meas Samnang, currently minister of

industry; Comrade Meas Kroch, currently deputy minister of national defense; Comrade Poun Ponloe, current deputy minister of trade; and Comrade Neou Samom, currently vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Organization Commission.

4. It is decided to appoint or transfer the leading cadres of a number of institutions as follows:

Comrade Tie Banh as vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of national defense; Comrade Kong Sam-ol as vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister in charge of the cabinet of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Ung Phan as minister of communication, transport, and posts; Comrade Koy Buntha as minister of social action and war invalids; Comrade Kong Korm as minister of the state affairs inspectorate; Comrade Sin Song as minister of the interior replacing Comrade Ney Pena, who is appointed chairman of the party Central Committee's Propaganda and Education Commission; Comrade Tang Saroem as minister of trade; Comrade Mrs Ho Non as minister of industry; Comrade Hor Nam Hong as minister assistant to the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers in charge of monitoring foreign and judicial affairs; Comrade Preap Pichey as director general of the general directorate for tourism; with Comrade Ke Kimyan, first deputy defense minister, being relieved of the post of chief of the general staff; Comrade Pol Saroem as deputy minister of national defense and chief of the General Staff; and Comrade Mrs Bo Rasi as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PRK to the USSR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Polish People's Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic, and the Saharan Arab Republic.

The meeting was concluded in a cordial atmosphere at 1045.

Major Cabinet Reshuffle Reported
*OW2208032888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0236 G: 1T
22 Aug 88*

[Text] Bangkok, Aug. 22 KYODO—The Vietnam-backed Kampuchean Government under President Heng Samrin has carried out a major cabinet reshuffle and abolished the government office in charge of cooperation with socialist countries, according to a radio report from Phnom Penh monitored here Sunday.

The Kampuchean Council of State on Saturday approved the reshuffle in which 11 cabinet members were retired or transferred.

Observers take the reshuffle and organizational change as part of the Phnom Penh government's efforts to seek a more independent policy amid the current move toward a political solution to the Kampuchean conflict.

Tie Banh, vice premier and minister of communications, transport, and posts was renamed as vice premier and defense minister. He takes over as defense minister from Koy Buntha, who was reassigned as minister of social affairs and invalid soldiers.

Ke Kimyan, the first deputy defense minister, was relieved of the post of chief of the General Staff, which was filled by Pol Saroeun.

Sin Song, who had defected from the former Pol Pot government, has been named new minister of the interior.

The Ministry of Economic and Cultural Cooperation With Foreign Countries was abolished, while a general directorate for tourism has been created under the Council of Ministers.

National Day Greetings Sent to Indian Leaders

*BK1908123388 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1118 GMT 19 Aug 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 19—The Kampuchean leaders have sent their warmest greetings to their Indian counterparts on the 41st independence day of the Republic of India (August 15).

The message sent to R. Venkataraman, president of the Republic of India, by Heng Samrin, president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, says:

"We would like to highly appreciate the role of the Republic of India on the international arena in the common struggle against the bellicose policy and arms race of imperialism and other reactionary forces, for peace, international security, and social progress.

"We would like to send our deep thanks to the government and people of India for their heartfelt assistance to the government and people of Kampuchea in their just struggle for the right to live in peace and social progress."

Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, in a message to his Indian counterpart, Rajiv Gandhi, says:

"Based on the fundamental principle of Mahatma Gandhi, an eminent son of the Indian people, the government and people of India have over the past 41 years made great achievements in national development and defence.

"The government and people of Kampuchea would like to extend our admiration to these great successes gained by the brotherly Indian people.

"Availing myself of this opportunity, on behalf of the government and the people of Kampuchea, I would like to express my deep thanks to you for your personal active contributions as well as the contributions of the

Government of India to the timely support and heartfelt assistance to the just cause of the Kampuchean people, especially their efforts in the search for a fair political solution to the Kampuchean issue."

He wishes the government and people of India ever greater success in national development and defence.

Hun Sen in the name of the PRK foreign minister, has extended his warm greetings to his Indian counterpart, P.V. Narasimha Rao.

Buntha Greet SRV Counterpart on National Day

*BK2108025688 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Aug 88*

[Text] Comrade Koy Buntha, minister of national defense of the PRK, has sent a message of greeting to General Le Duc Anh, minister of national defense of the SRV, on the 43d anniversary of Vietnam's August Revolution. The message read as follows:

On the occasion of the 43d anniversary of Vietnam's August Revolution and the SRV's independence day anniversary, on behalf of cadres and male and female combatants of the KPRAF, and in my own name I would like to extend warmest and most sincere greetings to you and cadres and male and female combatants of the fraternal VPA.

During the past 43 years under the clear-sighted and wise leadership of the CPV, the Vietnamese people and Army, continuously displaying their lofty heroism and love for the motherland, class, and people, have strived to surmount all obstacles in the wars created by the French colonialists, Japanese fascists, U.S. imperialists, and Chinese hegemonist-expansionists, and totally smashed all aggressive acts and perfidious maneuvers of the enemies, thus fulfilling their noble tasks to reunify the motherland and defend socialist Vietnam.

We highly value the big victories won by the fraternal Vietnamese people and Army. We pledge to learn from this courageous and heroic model so that we will be capable of gradually resuming the tasks of national defense and construction by ourselves.

May the special bond of Cambodia-Vietnam friendship, solidarity, and cooperation firmly strengthen and remain immortal.

We wish you and, through you, cadres and male and female combatants of the VPA good health, firm strength, and success in carrying out all immediate, noble tasks.

Please, comrade, accept my highest regards.

Men Sam-an Receives Lao Party Delegation

*BK1908080388 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 August 88*

[Text] Men Sam-an, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Organization Commission of the party Central Committee, cordially received at the Wat Phnum Hotel on the morning of 19 August a delegation of the LPRP Central Committee's Propaganda and Training Board, led by Comrade Somlak Chanthamat, member of the party Central Committee's Secretariat and director of the LPRP Central Committee's Propaganda and Training Board, which is currently paying an official friendly visit to the PRK.

On that occasion, Comrade Men Sam-an highly valued the Lao delegation's visit which has achieved good results and which affirms the relations of solidarity and friendship, and the cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries, particularly in the propaganda field. She also pointed out the Cambodian revolution's multifaceted developments in the past nearly 10 years which have made possible the seven consecutive withdrawals of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia. Moreover, she stressed the outcome of the informal meeting in Jakarta and the success acquired at the international meeting in Cambodia in moving toward breaking through the impasse which has dragged on for more than 9 years and bringing about a peaceful settlement to the Cambodian problem.

In his reply, Comrade Somlak Chanthamat thanked the Cambodian party, government, and people for their support and close cooperation in helping to promote the success of his mission. He steadfastly upheld the PRK's national reconciliation policy, and especially Comrade Hun Sen's seven-point proposal put forth at the Jakarta informal meeting.

Heng Samrin Welcomes Group

*BK2008061388 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Aug 88*

[Text] Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State, granted an audience at the former royal palace on the afternoon of 18 August to the delegation of the LPRP Central Committee's Propaganda and Training Board led by Comrade Somlat Chanthamat, member of the LPRP Central Committee Secretariat and chairman of the party Central Committee's Propaganda and Training Board, before the delegation ended its visit to the PRK.

Speaking on that occasion, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin highly valued the Lao delegation's visit to the PRK, which constituted proof of the harmonious bond of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between

the two countries of Cambodia and Laos, and particularly enabled the two countries' propaganda and education commissions to exchange ideas on propaganda and ideological work.

The comrade general secretary stressed the all-round development of the Cambodian revolution during the past nearly 10 years, particularly the genuine progress in the work to build the real revolutionary forces and to enable the Armed Forces to resume the tasks to defend the motherland and revolutionary gains, adding that this was inseparable from the active contribution by the Lao party, government, and people.

Comrade Heng Samrin also spoke about the resolution of the fifth KPRP Central Committee's seventh session concerning work to firmly build and strengthen villages and communes in all aspects, build the Armed Forces for serving as the party's resolute instrument of dictatorship, and vigorously stimulate the propaganda and ideological work—the key task in the new phase of struggle of the Cambodian revolution. The comrade general secretary also voiced support for the struggle waged by the Lao party, government, and people for the cause of peace, stability, and good neighborliness among countries in this region.

In his reply, Comrade Somlat Chanthamat expressed profound thanks to the Cambodian party, government, and people for their assistance and close cooperation, thus enabling his mission to be successful. He also voiced support for the all-round achievements made by the Cambodian people during the past nearly 10 years and for the outcome of the Jakarta informal meeting, particularly Comrade Hun Sen's seven-point proposal which attested to the progress made by the Cambodian party and state in the political and diplomatic fields and caused the criminal Pol Pot clique to become isolated.

Propaganda Delegation Departs

*BK2108125188 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1105 GMT 21 Aug 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 21—A delegation of the Commission for Propaganda and Training of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party led by its President Somlak Chanthamat left here on 19 August after a week-long official friendship visit to Kampuchea.

While here, the delegation were warmly received on separate occasions by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of the State Council, and Men Sam-an, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and president of its Commission for Organization.

It visited the former royal palace, silver pagoda, the national museum, the Tuol Sleng museum of genocide, several economic establishments in Phnom Penh, the ancient monument at Tonle Bati (Takeo Province), and Kompong Som city.

SPK Reports Thai Violations, Casualties

*BK2008055488 Phnom Penh SPK in French
0406 GMT 20 Aug 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh, 20 Aug (SPK)—During the week ending 13 August, nine Thai aircraft on seven occasions overflowed the O Bok region—Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province—between 10 and 15 km inside Cambodian territory, and Poulo Wai Island, Koh Kong Province.

On the ground, Thai gunners poured hundreds of shells into Hill 400, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, Malai, Banteay Meanchey Province, and Pailin, Battambang Province.

At sea, Thai ships intruded eight times into Cambodia's territorial waters between 4 and 6 nautical miles from Poulo Wai Island.

During the same period while mopping-up, Cambodian border guards put out of action 73 intruders, including 37 killed, 15 captured in action, and 21 forced to surrender, and seized 42 assorted weapons and other war materiel.

Sihanouk Reverses Position on UN Seat

*BK2208051688 Hong Kong AFP in English 0458 GMT
22 Aug 88*

[Text] Beijing, Aug 22 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk has made an about-face and will not seek to vacate the Cambodian seat at the United Nations, his office said in a note received here Monday.

"Norodom Sihanouk has no intention of addressing a letter, open or not, to the U.N. or to talk to friendly governments on the subject of an 'empty seat.' This should reassure all the sponsors" of the Cambodian resistance, it said.

Western analysts said the clarification, which contrasts with recent statements by the prince, was a conciliatory gesture to China and non-Communist Asian countries which support the resistance.

Prince Sihanouk has publicly affirmed several times in recent weeks that the U.N. seat, currently occupied by a three-party resistance coalition, should be vacated until a political solution is reached in Cambodia.

The former Cambodian monarch resigned as president of the coalition in July, virulently attacking the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, the most powerful faction.

Prince Sihanouk's proposals for a vacant seat deeply irritated China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Brunei), Western diplomats said.

These countries and China argued that an empty U.N. seat would be a gift to Hanoi as it would boost the credibility of the Phnom Penh government installed by Vietnamese troops to replace the Khmer Rouge in 1979, analysts said.

The clarification comes a few days before the opening here of an unprecedented Sino-Soviet meeting on Cambodia. Prince Sihanouk, who arrived here last week, will be present in the Chinese capital throughout the talks.

The prince was also present in Indonesia at the end of July during talks in Bogor in which all four warring Cambodian factions met for the first time.

The resistance, which has about 50,000 troops, opposes the presence of some 100,000 Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia and includes, in addition to the Khmer Rouge, supporters of Prince Sihanouk and nationalists who back Son Sann.

VONADK Reports Siem Reap Grenade Attack

*BK2008014488 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army
of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT
19 Aug 88*

[Text] On the nights of 6, 7, 9, and 12 August, our guerrillas lobbed grenades at the Vietnamese enemies in Siem Reap Town as follows: 2 grenades at Phsa Leu, 2 grenades at Damnak Monastery, 2 grenades at the bridge south of Boeng Ta Lo Restaurant, and one grenade at Kraom. Four Vietnamese enemies were killed and 11 were wounded.

Following these grenade attacks, the Vietnamese enemies in Siem Reap Town were in great panic and immediately imposed a curfew.

Indonesia

Parliamentarians View Military in East Timor

*BK1908164488 Hong Kong AFP in English 1547 GMT
19 Aug 88*

[Text] Dili, East Timor, Aug 19 (AFP)—Four members of the European Parliament invited by Indonesia to visit East Timor have expressed surprise at the level of Jakarta's military presence in the former Portuguese territory.

Indonesia annexed East Timor in 1976 after the Portuguese withdrew, but the United Nations has not recognized Jakarta's claim to the region.

"The military presence is disproportionate to security needs," said Guy Guermeur of France before leaving the region Thursday [18 August]. He said the situation in East Timor could be controlled by regular police forces.

Brian Cassidy of Britain said the delegation saw no evidence of human rights abuses, but found some concern about the military presence.

The delegation members said that the sporadic actions of the Revolutionary Front for the Liberation of East Timor (Fretilin) did not justify such a strong military force. The rebels are estimated to have between 500 and 800 men.

The parliamentarians, including Janssen van Raay of the Netherlands and Beata Weber of West Germany, said they had not been able to obtain the official figure of Indonesian troops stationed in East Timor. Mr. Cassidy said there were estimates of 15,000 Indonesian troops in the region.

Mr. Guermeur said the military seemed to have placed itself in a situation where it was acting "against the civilian power and the general interest."

The parliamentarians met military, civilian, and religious officials.

Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Guermeur told a group of Western journalists allowed by Jakarta to go to Dili that Interior Minister Rudini had said Monday East Timor could be fully opened by the year's end.

Indonesian Defense Minister Benny Murdani, who is to meet the delegation Saturday in Jakarta, has said that East Timor is not closed, but only "open to selected people."

The European Parliament will study in September and October a report on East Timor containing some "allegations that merit debate," said Mr. Cassidy, adding that the reopening of East Timor would be a crucial test.

The parliamentarians will also meet Saturday with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, who invited them personally, before returning to Europe.

The European Parliament in June adopted a motion condemning Jakarta's policy on East Timor. Portugal has severed diplomatic relations with Jakarta and continues to advocate self-determination for East Timor.

Delegation Calls on Murdani

BK2108153488 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] A delegation of the European Parliament, which has been visiting East Timor, has the impression that all Indonesian officials were open to the delegation and gave necessary information about East Timor. The

impression was aired by the delegates during a visit with L.B. Murdani, defense and security minister, in Jakarta yesterday following a 3-day visit to East Timor.

A press release issued by the Public Relations Bureau of the Defense and Security Department disclosed that the five-man European Parliament delegation led by Jansen van Ray had directly observed the situation in the youngest province and visited places they wanted to see without prior notice.

The delegates, who left Indonesia yesterday, hoped that East Timor would be able to have better development in the future even though they had already observed rapid development in the province, especially in the educational, health, and economic fields.

Visit Ends; Group Departs

BK2208055588 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0234 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Jakarta, August 22 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia and the delegation of the European Parliament wish that the bilateral relations between Indonesia and Portugal could be renewed.

Indonesia always wants to be friendly with any countries including Portugal, the head of the Indonesian Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation [Committee], Theo Sambuaga, told reporters when he saw off the four-member delegation from the European Parliament which had just completed a week-long visit to Indonesia, including East Timor, Saturday [20 August].

As long as Portugal will not meddle into Indonesian internal affairs, Indonesia is always ready to have diplomatic relations with the country, he said. To show that Indonesia is sincere with its wish, it sent an invitation last January to the Portuguese members of Parliament to visit the country, which has so far still been under process, he added.

Theo Sambuaga made the statement in response to one of the wishes of the members of the European Parliament that Indonesia and Portugal through the United Nations or other international societies would renew their bilateral relations.

The members of the European Parliament have recommended that Indonesia and Portugal together would ask the European Community and the secretary general of the United Nations to choose neutral governments to help solve their problem.

They have also suggested that the central Government of Indonesia and the representatives of the Indonesian youngest province would frankly seek for a maximum autonomy of the province. Theo Sambuaga said that East Timor is basically an open region and its people possess freedom to move.

"It is appropriate that East Timor as the youngest province is given protection. What we do not want from the people outside is that they will see the region with their own "spectacles", Theo said.

The visit of the delegation of the European Parliament to East Timor was not the first one made by foreign parliament members. Earlier, some parliament members from Australia and Canada as well as a delegation from a religious organization visited the region.

The members of the European Parliament supported the idea of making East Timor an open region and were of the view that as the youngest province the region needs to be protected to some extent.

About the accusation of the Dutch Christian Democrats that there are special military units in the region, Theo said that it was not true that there are about 15,000 soldiers in the region. He said that the number of soldiers in the region is appropriate with the need.

Theo said that many Westerners do not understand the role of the Indonesian Armed Forces. "They only think that soldiers are for a war", he said. He pointed out that the Indonesian Armed Forces also play the role of a development agent and motivator.

Mrs. Beata Weber of the West German Socialist Democrat Party said that the people of East Timor are free to move. Theo agreed to it saying that there are, of course, regulations but they are common to other provinces as well. Commenting on Mrs. Weber's suggestion that Indonesia should not necessarily pay and work to guide those who wish to visit the region, he said that everyone who is to enter a region must adhere to the regulations.

Brian Cassidy of the British Conservative Party said that his fellow members of the European Parliament wished that the infrastructural constructions in the region should have been modernized. They also suggested that the province would be more open for a joint venture especially with regard to helping create small-scale and middle-level businessmen in the region. They also called for an improvement of the regional workers' productivity, preservation of tourism objects and natural resources, increased aid from international society, and information to improve the level of health condition in the region. They said that the Government of Indonesia may extend a request from the non-governmental organizations for aid to improve the health condition of the people in East Timor.

In the field of education, they have recorded a remarkable effort in the elementary and high school education.

Basically, the six members of the European Parliament are expecting normalization of relations, in its widest sense, between Indonesia and Portugal and continuous equal distribution of opportunity and development in all fields.

The members of the European Parliament arrived here on August 14 upon Indonesia's invitation. They have held discussions with Home Affairs Minister Rudini, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, as well as Minister of Defense and Security L.B. Murdani.

Alatas on Cambodia Working Group Meeting

BK2208083888 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The working group formed at the Jakarta informal meeting [JIM] will hold its first meeting in Jakarta on 17 October 1988. The agreement on the timetable and venue of the meeting is the result of approaches made by Indonesia to the JIM participants.

This was disclosed by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas today after he reported to President Suharto on his planned visit to India and Egypt tomorrow. Alatas noted that the meeting will be attended by senior officials of the 10 countries that took part in the JIM.

Minister Alatas also reported to the head of state on his plan to attend a ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Movement countries in Nicosia, Cyprus, on 5-10 September.

Vice President Attends Zia's Funeral

BK1908080788 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Representing the Indonesian Government and people, Vice President Sudharmono left for Pakistan this afternoon to attend the funeral of the late Pakistani President Ziaul Haq.

The vice president, who is accompanied by his wife, Justice Minister Ismail Saleh; Armed Forces Commander General Tri Sutrisno; Marshall Utomo, Air Force Chief of Staff; and Deputy Parliament Speaker Saiful Sulun, will stay in Pakistan for 2 days, returning home on Sunday [21 August].

Sudharmono Returns From Pakistan

BK2208045588 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0245 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Jakarta, August 22, (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia is hoping that the existing good relations between Indonesia and Pakistan would be sustained under the new leadership now ruling in Pakistan, Vice President Sudharmono said.

Indonesia is also hoping that the Pakistani people and government will not drift in a protracted mourning over the tragic death of President Ziaul Haq, he told Indonesian reporters on the plane carrying him back home Saturday night from attending the funeral of the late Pakistani leader.

Sudharmono made this statement when he was asked about Indonesia's hope concerning the new leadership in Pakistan.

On the basis of Pakistan's Constitution, Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan has taken over the presidency upon the tragic death of Ziaul Haq in a plane crash last Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the late Ziaul Haq had announced before his death that there will be a general election in Pakistan in November this year.

Vice-President Sudharmono, who represented the people and Government of Indonesia in the funeral of Ziaul Haq on Saturday, said the people and Government of Indonesia have very great respect for the late Ziaul Haq personally.

The sending of a high-level delegation led by the vice-president and including Justice Minister Ismail Saleh and Armed Forces Commander General Tri Sutrisno to express Indonesia's condolences to the people of Pakistan, according to Sudharmono, showed how highly Indonesia appreciates the late Zia and how close is the relation between Indonesia and Pakistan.

"If the president had not been busy with domestic affairs, he himself would have attended the funeral," the vice-president explained.

When asked about the effect of Ziaul Haq's death on the solution of the Afghanistan problem, Sudharmono noted that the solution of the problem had been decided on on the basis of the Geneva Agreement, which was signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan on April 14, 1988, with the United States and the Soviet Union acting as the guarantors.

"I think all sides involved in the problem will stick to their respective commitment on the matter," he said.

Vice-President Sudharmono and his delegation arrived back in Jakarta Sunday morning on a Garuda DC-10. The group flew from Jakarta to Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan, Friday afternoon.

Opposition Party To Recall 13 House Members

BK1908111188 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES
in English 13 Aug 88 p 1

[Excerpt] The Indonesian Democratic Party [PDI] submitted to the House Speaker yesterday a letter of recall against 13 of its members from the House. The letter of recall was received by House Speaker Kharis Suhud from Fatimah Akhmad, the chairperson of the PDI faction in the House. Secretary General of PDI Nico Daryanto accompanied Fatimah Akhmad when meeting the House Speaker.

Both PDI leaders did not elaborate when asked by reporters about the letter, but said they that they can make whatever interpretation they wish. The reply further strengthened observers' assumption that the party was avoiding the press, particularly prior to the dismissal of seven people from the party's membership. The dismissal was issued in reaction to the reshuffle of the party's central board and the announcement of a new board led by Dudy Singadilaga, Yusuf Merukh, and Marsusi earlier in March this year.

Following the dismissal of the PDI members, Marsusi, a senior representative from East Java sued PDI General Chairman Suryadi 2,500 million rupiah for offense. The case is still under legal process. [passage omitted]

Philippines

No Link in Review, Retention of Bases

HK2208111988 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 1000 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Ambassador Leonides Caday, RP [Republic of the Philippines] panel spokesman, today clarified that the current Military Bases Agreement [MBA] review has no connection with events taking place after 16 September 1991. During his appearance before the Senate Committee on National Defense and Security, Caday said the current talks do not include the retention of the U.S. military bases after the treaty expires in 1991. Here is Jojo Ismael for the details:

[Begin recording] According to MBA provisions, the review should take place every 5 years to enable necessary amendments. Caday said it would not be correct to say that our country is asking for a bigger amount for the retention of the military bases after 1991.

Former Senator Arturo Tolentino, who also attended the hearing, favors the bill submitted to the Senate asking that the Philippines express its stand regarding the MBA expiration in 1991. Sources say that if there is no statement on this, it would mean that the treaty will continue to be in effect. [end recording]

Manglapus Says Bases Renegotiation Up to Aquino

HK2008043388 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0400 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] President Aquino has to use her prerogative if the Philippines are to renegotiate on the continued presence of U.S. bases in the country. This was stated by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus. He said it is up to the president to decide after the military bases agreement review ends.

Meanwhile, 11 percent of Filipinos favor the immediate removal of the bases. Manglapus made reference to an opinion survey conducted by the Social Weather Opinion Poll. He said 25 percent are in favor of the bases' removal after 1991, while 30 percent of the population favor their retention.

Ordenez Urges Aquino Statement

*BK1908111388 Manila PNA in English 0826 GMT
19 Aug 88*

[Text] Manila, Aug. 19 (OANA/PNA)—A top cabinet official Friday urged Philippine President Corazon C. Aquino to make known her government's option on whether to renegotiate for the retention of U.S. bases or not after the current review is concluded.

Aquino has maintained a policy of keeping her options open on the fate of the bases until after the 1947 Philippine-U.S. Bases Agreement expires in 1991. The agreement is currently under review by both governments.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, head of the Philippine panel, said Aquino should exercise her option much earlier and suggested that it be made immediately after the ongoing review is concluded this year.

The idea was that after the termination of the current review, the Philippine and U.S. Governments could refer to a document that reflects the attitude of the United States towards the Philippines.

Another top Aquino cabinet official, Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordenez had earlier expressed similar view that the president should decide on her options as a matter of national interest. Manglapus said he agrees with that view.

'Schism' Over Bases Compensation Developing

*HK2208125188 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY
INQUIRER in English 21 Aug 88 pp 1, 8*

[By Marlen Ronquillo, with a report by Chay Florentino]

[Text] Senators yesterday said a "deep schism" over the issue of compensation in the bases talks is developing at the top government level and warned Washington may take advantage of the split.

"We will end up the big loser if we don't speak in a single voice and ask those straying from the official position to at least keep their mouths shut," a senator told the INQUIRER.

The senators said the "schism" involves Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and Ambassador to Washington Emmanuel Pelaez, the leaders of two groups clashing over the thrust of Manila's position on the issue of how much should Washington pay for its bases here in 1990 and 1991.

Manglapus, the country's chief negotiator in the bases talks, has demanded a \$1.2-billion compensation package which Washington could meet only halfway. Sources said Manglapus has President Aquino's backing.

Pelaez, however, is urging a new bases deal with Washington as soon as possible to speed up the delivery of a still uncertain \$10-billion Philippine Aid Plan. Observers said Pelaez's stand is strikingly similar to the U.S. line.

Manglapus has expressed displeasure over Pelaez's stand which the foreign secretary felt undermines the Philippine panel's position, sources said.

In a closed-door briefing of senators in Manila Monday, Pelaez reportedly warned that the U.S. will most likely pull out its bases here if Manila asks too much compensation.

Under the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement, Washington pays Manila \$180 million a year only—way below what other host countries to U.S. bases are getting.

Pelaez, however, reportedly told the senators that Washington, if pushed to the wall, may also withdraw its support to the \$10-billion international aid plan.

Senators said that during the briefing, Pelaez broadly asked them to understand the economic difficulties in the U.S. and its inability to pay the \$1.2-billion annual compensation package proposed by the Philippine panel.

They said the position of Pelaez is "clearly jeopardizing the official position" Manglapus has presented in the ongoing talks.

They said that Pelaez' statements convey that the Philippine Government cannot even have a "single voice" over the bases issue. Washington can take advantage of the split to "erode" the Philippine position, the senators said.

After the briefing, a source said, some of the senators proposed to advise Pelaez to "keep his mouth shut" at least for the duration of the talks.

The senators said they got the impression that Pelaez "was batting for the American line."

Most of the senators support the Manglapus position that the Philippine panel should get the most out of the U.S. bases.

Sen. John Osmena, the only senator who has come out openly for the bases retention, wants the RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement extended precisely to get economic concessions from the U.S.

Senate President Jovito Salonga earlier said it is "stupid and unfair" for the Philippines to go to the negotiating table without a demand for high compensation.

In a separate interview, Pelaez indicated that he has no intention of undermining the position of Manglapus on the issue of compensation—contrary to the perception of Manglapus, the senators, and other public officials.

"Well, that is the stand of the Department (of Foreign Affairs)...the (Philippine) Embassy is part of the department so we have to be one," he said of his reported differences with Manglapus on the issue of compensation.

Sources, however, said Pelaez went to see Manglapus Thursday evening to settle their differences.

Manglapus Supports Study on Alternative Bases Use
HK2008031988 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The Philippines will earn more if the U.S. military bases are used for other purposes. Secretary of Foreign Affairs Raul Manglapus made this statement during the Congress hearing on the department's budget. Manglapus referred to the study conducted by the University of the Philippines' Institute of Public Administration, which says that Clark Air Base could be made into an international airport. Manglapus supported the study because it would mean that the Philippines is prepared for the possibility of a U.S. bases pullout.

Government Asks U.S. To Build 30 Patrol Boats
HK2208050788 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 22 Aug 88 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Marites Sison with additional reports by Tess Villanueva]

[Text] The Philippines has asked the United States to construct 30 new patrol boats to replace the "obsolete" military equipment of the Philippine Navy, a foreign affairs official disclosed yesterday.

The official, who requested anonymity, said the request was made last year and not in any way related to the arrest by Malaysian naval authorities of 49 Filipino fishermen in the waters off the disputed Rizal Reef.

Commander Cipriano Luspo, spokesman for the Philippine Navy, said members of a joint committee of the U.S. and Philippine navies are now meeting in the U.S. to draw up the specification of the 30 patrol boats.

The Philippine request is "now in the works in Washington," the foreign affairs official said.

He added that the delivery of the vessels could be included as part of the compensation the U.S. would pay for the use of the military bases here for the remaining two years of the Military Bases Agreement.

The foreign affairs official added without elaborating that the government had requested the U.S. to construct such boats "according to the specifications of the Philippine Navy."

Luspo said that although the design and features of the boats have yet to be finalized, the vessels when finished would be about 77 feet long and would be fast. He added that the boats would have shallow drafts to enable them to maneuver in shallow waters.

The drawing up of specifications would only be the first part of a five- to seven-year program, which would also include the transfer of vessel-building technology to the country, the Navy spokesman told the 'CHRONICLE.'

The foreign affairs officials said the Armed Forces, in making the request, had noted that the equipment being used by the Philippine Navy are already "obsolete" with some dating as far back as the 1940s.

The Navy's primary function is to defend the country against external attacks and to guard its water boundaries.

At the height of the recent incident with Malaysia, government officials urged the strengthening of the Navy, noting that it was not at par with those of neighboring countries, including Malaysia.

President Aquino herself, in an address at the anniversary of the Philippine Navy three weeks ago, urged the Navy to improve its capability to conduct patrols along the borders and to engage in intelligence operations.

Luspo said the vessels are badly needed to augment the 40 or 50 World War II-vintage vessels of varying types that the Navy now has.

He admitted that the country's naval force "has been overtaken by technology."

"We are really very much behind, what has been declared obsolete in other navies are still being used in our Navy," Luspo added.

He also conceded that among our Asian neighbors "we have the weakest navy."

Unless the strengthening of the Navy would be part of the national policy, intrusions by Malaysian vessels and Taiwanese fishing boats could not be helped, he added.

A naval officer early this week told the 'CHRONICLE' that Malaysian naval boats and warplanes had intruded into local waters and air space several times since last month.

Commodore Juanito Cortez said he had reported the incidents to the authorities in Manila, and recommended that government forces in the area be strengthened after he noted a buildup of Malaysian naval forces near Palawan and the Taganak island.

Anti-Graft Court Approves of Marcos Return

Aquino Said Confident

HK2208075188 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Excerpt] According to Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig, President Aquino is confident that the government can cope with any disturbances that may arise once former President Marcos returns to the country. It will be recalled that the Sandiganbayan [Anti-Graft Court] approved a request from the Presidential Commission on Good Government [PCGG] to allow Marcos to return and face charges filed against him:

[Begin Macaraig recording in English] The president said that she will abide by any decision of the court. Then there is always the possibility that the court will decide to allow him to return. I think that the president is confident that the government can cope with whatever events that might be triggered by the return of President Marcos. [end recording]

However, attempts may be made on the life of former President Marcos and the blame put on the government. This was announced by Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig in an interview with Malacanang newsmen. But he assured that the government could control security conditions in the country in the event that the former president returned to the Philippines.

Macaraig's statement came in the wake of President Aquino's declaration that she would respect a Sandiganbayan ruling on the return of Marcos to the Philippines. [passage omitted]

Marcos To Defend Himself

HK2008023588 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in English 2300 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Former President Marcos said he would ask to come home and personally defend himself after the Anti-Graft Court ruled he had a right to be present when a former [word indistinct] testifies against him. Yesterday the Sandiganbayan [Anti-Graft Court] ruled that the deposed president had a right to be present when former Public Works Secretary Baltazar Aquino gives a deposition before the panel on 7 November. Justice Augusto Mora said Marcos could appear personally or be represented by council. Marcos told a reporter by telephone from Hawaii that he had not been informed officially of yesterday's ruling.

Salonga Says Marcos Can Return From Exile

BK1908095588 Manila PNA in English 0745 GMT
19 Aug 88

[Text] Manila, Aug. 19 (OANA/PNA)—Philippine Senate President Jovito Salonga Friday said former President Marcos could return home from exile in Hawaii to face charges against him even without permission from the Aquino government.

"It is the basic right of every Filipino citizen, if he is abroad, to return to his country without his government's permission," Salonga, a key opposition leader during the Marcos regime, told a press conference at the Senate.

"If there are constraints, he has to assert himself, if need be, to return to his homeland since this is also in accord with international law," the leader of the Liberal Party (LP) in the ruling coalition said.

Salonga was reacting to the question if it would be possible for the deposed president to come home to face criminal charges of stealing national wealth from the government while he was in power.

It is the constitutional right of the former president to come back, face his accusers, testify, and refute the charges against him.

Salonga, former head of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), the body tasked with getting back Marcos' ill-gotten wealth, had been battling for Marcos' even without government permission.

Salonga said that when he was on exile himself in the United States because of pending subversion charges against him by the previous regime, he came home in 1985 without permission from the Marcos administration.

He explained that a month after his return, Marcos exonerated him of the subversion case.

The late former Senator Benigno Aquino Jr., husband of President Corazon C. Aquino, came home with pending subversion charges against him in 1983 but unfortunately, he was assassinated upon his arrival at the then Manila International Airport, Salonga said.

President Aquino has said that she would abide by any court decision on the return of Marcos. The body of Marcos' mother, the late Dona Josefa, remains unburied since her death since last May awaiting for Marcos' return to preside over the funeral.

Papers View Possible Marcos Return

Editorial on Marcos' Returning

HK2208045588 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 22 Aug 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Aquino Regime Now Ready for Marcos?"]

[Text] Since Ferdinand Marcos was driven to exile in 1986, the question that has been nagging all Filipinos is whether or not the country is now prepared for his return to face the charges of plunder filed against him. The initial answers of President Aquino to it has been a firm No.

But lately, the President appears to have eased up, saying that if the courts order the deposed dictator's return, she would not object to it.

Her change of mind could be the most solid indication that as far as she and some of her advisers are concerned, the country has attained that degree of stability needed to withstand any threat posed by Marcos and his loyalists, including those in the military. Which is, indeed, a welcome development.

It is, of course, the constitutional right of every citizen of the Republic, including the ousted strongman—genuinely hated as he might be by many—to return home to face the charges filed against him. But beyond adherence to the provisions of the Constitution, there are other factors that must be considered, foremost of which is the effect to the national security of Marcos' return.

But even the military that had initially interposed the most vehement objections to Marcos' return seems to have relented. We read the statement of Gen. Renato de Villa, Armed Forces chief of staff, that the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], like the President, will abide by the court's word. Of course, as expected, General de Villa warned of some trouble from the dwindling ranks of Marcos fanatics, including those in the military. There is no gainsaying such a threat still exists, particularly in the light of the continuing divisive efforts of some in the political opposition, and the growing insurgency. There was this added assurance from the AFP chief of staff, however, that the threats, presumably including the possibility that communist insurgents might take advantage of any restiveness that might be occasioned by Marcos' return, are nothing that our valiant soldiers cannot cope with.

Still, these are all conjectures—self-assurances, in fact—that Marcos' return will not worsen the current volatile situation brought about by recent exposes of unabated irregularities in the bureaucracy and the systematized corruption in government that have become the envy of even the financial buccaneers of the deposed regime.

What the people need is a concrete assurance from the President herself that the country is now prepared to allow Marcos to return—and not just because the courts say so.

Paper Sees Risk in Move

HK2208051388 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 22 Aug 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Marcos Return is Too Big a Risk"]

[Text] The Aquino Government, wittingly or unwittingly, has legally left the door ajar for the possible return of former President Marcos. The Sandiganbayan, the anti-graft court, in a resolution last Thursday granted a government petition to take evidence from Mr Marcos' public works minister, Baltazar Aquino.

Mr Aquino, who is said to be ill, appears to be prepared to reveal evidence that he had witnessed receipt by companies associated with Mr Marcos of kickbacks from Japanese firms which had been awarded public works contracts. The Presidential Commission on Good Government has alleged Mr Marcos had received at least \$5 million in kickbacks from Japanese firms.

Mr Aquino's testimony is probably essential to support the Government's case, but the problem is that the Solicitor General, on behalf of the Government, now opposes the return of Mr Marcos because it may cause "political and security" problems for the country. The Sandiganbayan's resolution is now being used by Mr Marcos to strengthen his demand that he be allowed to return not only to bury his mother, but also to defend himself.

The Sandiganbayan justice who wrote the resolution said that the risks flowing from the presence here of the deposed President "are apparently known" to the Government, particularly the Solicitor General. He said that the court could not deny the former President his legal rights.

The ruling is perfectly all right from a very strictly legal point of view. But the trouble is that the question of Mr Marcos' return concerns the issue of security of the state which transcends legal issues. In other words, the Marcos return is more a political issue than it is a legal issue which the former leader is now exploiting shrewdly.

The Sandiganbayan's resolution has put the Government in a bind. It is not established whether Mr Marcos' precarious health can take the rigors of a normal airline flight—there are reports it could not. If this were the case, the Government has been losing propaganda points, thanks to its own shortsightedness. At least, the Solicitor General, the Government's counsel, has to make up his mind over whether the testimony of Mr Baltazar Aquino is more important than political stability. We don't believe the Government is that stable to risk possible destabilization moves from Mr Marcos.

The former president continues to insist that he is still the "legitimate" president. This should be sufficient to warn the Government against complacency that Mr Marcos is ready to play the rules of the game. He has never been known to follow the rules.

President Aquino and the military leadership say that they will obey any judicial order directing the return of Mr Marcos. Of course, they will because they have no choice. But the Government still has some options available to prevent the reentry of the nation's No. 1 mischief maker—a judicial appeal against the Sandiganbayan resolution.

Before the Government runs out of options and is forced to the wall, it must decide whether it wants Baltazar Aquino's evidence enough to take a chance on Mr Marcos. The Solicitor General, Frank Chavez, thinks that Mr Marcos' presence is not "an essential requirement," and that he can be represented by counsel.

Let's get things clear. The Government is in no position to accept more risks affecting its political stability. Mr Aquino's testimony is nothing compared to the possible disruptions that the presence of Mr Marcos could engender. While he is no longer a dominant political force, he can be the focus of myriad plots by groups with their own agendas to destabilize the Government.

President Aquino Addresses Memorial to Husband
HK2108052188 Hong Kong AFP in English 0456 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Manila, Aug 21 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino led her compatriots Sunday in honoring her husband, opposition leader Benigno Aquino, whose assassination five years ago sparked a popular upheaval that swept his widow to power.

"We have created a nation that is free again and proud as it has never been, the envy of all the world and standing on the threshold of progress," Mrs. Aquino said at a Roman Catholic mass celebrated in a suburban Manila church in honor of her husband.

South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, a close friend of Mr. Aquino, observed the low-key anniversary along with members of the Supreme Court, Congress, the cabinet and the first family as well as diplomats and military officials.

Mr. Aquino was shot dead at Manila airport on August 21, 1983, on his return from exile in the United States to lead the opposition to then-President Ferdinand Marcos. The murder led to a chain of events that forced Mr. Marcos into U.S. exile less than three years later.

Mrs. Aquino warned Sunday that the nation's unity "is again being tested by those who seek to further reduce it, to undo the progress we have painfully made and set this nation back again upon the downward force from which you and I had rescued it."

She did not elaborate.

"But you and I shall not let it," she told the packed church. "We will take this nation as far as recovery and progress, God, duty and people's support will let me."

"My mandate is with this nation, not with its enemy. My covenant is with the constitution, our contract is with God, our pledge was to Ninoy," she said, using Mr. Aquino's nickname.

Several supporters waved yellow placards outside the church, but it was the first time no major rallies were held to mark the anniversary of the assassination, observers said.

However, radio stations played patriotic songs and tape recordings of the former senator's major speeches and interviews.

Several Manila newspapers came out with supplements devoted to Mr. Aquino. Weekend magazines and at least one newspaper columnist mused about what could have been were Mr. Aquino alive today.

Further on Speech

HK2208023388 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] President Corazon Aquino vowed yesterday to push the country towards recovery, progress and peace as she warned enemies of the state against showing disunity and bringing back the nation on a downward course. Mrs Aquino said that the continuing support of the people will enable her administration to survive and pursue its avowed goal of bringing progress and peace to the land.

The president said in her speech at the mass commemorating the fifth death anniversary of her husband Ninoy Aquino at the Santo Domingo Church in Quezon City that she will take this nation as far towards recovery and progress as God and duty and the people's support will let her. Mrs Aquino said she promised her husband that she will continue his fight to restore democracy in the country.

President Aquino also rejected yesterday Vice President Salvador Laurel's call that she resign to pave the way for snap presidential elections. Mrs Aquino stressed her intentions to finish her term in 1992 and vowed to restore peace and progress in the country. It was the first time the president had formally rejected Laurel's demand made last August 13 when the vice president disclosed the content of his letter to Mrs Aquino. Laurel

claimed that things were worse now than when Mrs Aquino assumed power in 1986 and urged her to resign and call for a snap presidential elections.

Mrs Aquino accused the opposition of trying to weaken national unity which she said was achieved by the assassination of her husband.

Kim Tae-chung Comments on Military Bases Review
*HK2208100988 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0856 GMT 22 Aug 88*

[Text] The Philippine panel is easily influenced by the U.S. panel in the military bases review. This was stated by Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung. Cesar Chavez of Mobile 9 has the details:

[Begin recording] South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung today said they feel that the Philippine panel is easily influenced by the U.S. panel in the ongoing review of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. military bases agreement [MBA]. In his courtesy call on Senate President Jovito Salonga, he said that South Korean youth's anti-American sentiment is due to the United States' failure to support Korea's unification. Kim, who had been a close friend of former Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr, added that the reason for the spread of anti-American feeling is the U.S. moves to protect dictators. He said his country is closely observing the current military bases review. According to him, South Korea is afraid that a war may break out against North Korea. It will be recalled that North Korea occupied South Korea in 1950, 1 year after the U.S. Government withdrew its military bases from South Korea. [Kim recording indistinct]

Says U.S. Bases Should Stay

*HK2208101788 Hong Kong AFP in English 0944 GMT
22 Aug 88*

[Text] Manila, Aug 22 (AFP)—South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-Chung Monday spoke in favor of U.S. bases in the Philippines, saying that a U.S. withdrawal would leave a vacuum that could be filled by the Soviet Union or Japan.

He said the two military installations, Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base, which are the subject of U.S.-Philippine talks before their lease expires in 1991, played a major part in protecting the Strait of Malacca, a vital oil tanker route.

"If America fails to protect this Malacca Strait, then there is a possibility that the Soviet Union can (take control), or Japan," Mr. Kim said, adding that neither would be acceptable.

"If Japan can take such a role, I think our people will be very dissatisfied," he said. "We don't want to see the revival of little giants like Japan. This is our concern."

"We pay serious attention to military stability in the Pacific area," Mr. Kim told a group of Philippine senators here in a conversation at which several journalists were present. "This is very important not only for your internal security but also for our security."

The talks on the bases, now in recess, have bogged down over money.

Informed sources say Manila wants 1.2 billion dollars a year as compensation for 1990 and 1991, while Washington, which currently pays 180 million dollars a year, offered only 540 million dollars.

Clark and Subic, home to nearly 18,000 U.S. servicemen, extend U.S. military power across the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Mr. Kim said South Koreans were "most satisfied" with the U.S. presence in their country because of the North Korean threat, although he acknowledged a "growing anti-American feeling" among the youth.

A friend of Philippine President Corazon Aquino's murdered husband, Benigno, Mr. Kim has been treated like a visiting head of government since he arrived here Friday on a private basis.

He has met Mrs. Aquino, Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin and senior government officials, and praised the nonviolent "people power" revolt here in 1986 as an example followed by the South Korean opposition to restore democracy.

Seeks Asian Parties Meeting

*SK1908232088 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 20 Aug 88 p 1*

[By correspondent Yi Chang-sop]

[Text] Manila—Kim Tae-chung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy, proposed Friday that Asian countries establish a conference of all democratic political parties to promote democracy, peace and freedom in the region and in the world.

Speaking at the National Press Club here, Kim said Korea and the Philippines can convene the conference "by becoming a driving force for democratization in Asia and by banding together the peoples of the two countries."

Kim arrived here Friday for a five-day visit, mainly to attend a ceremony inaugurating the "Ninoy Aquino Movement," a foundation established in memory of the assassinated Filipino opposition leader, who was Kim's friend.

Kim said democratization is being delayed in Korea at present and the opposition will move to realize fuller provincial autonomy system as one of major goals toward the democratization.

"Just as Marcos' influence was an obstacle to democratization in the Philippines, the remnants of the Chon Tu-hwan regime are continuing hindrance toward fuller democracy in Korea," Kim stressed.

He said the Korean opposition wishes to re-establish the legitimacy of democracy by completely investigating the Kwangju incident and the wrongdoings of former President Chon and his family members so as to restore the honor of the citizens of Kwangju and return the illegally acquired fortune to the people.

Gunbattle as Kim, Senior Officials Dine

HK2208152388 Hong Kong AFP in English 1516 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Manila, Aug 22 (AFP)—Two soldiers and an assailant were wounded Monday in a gunbattle outside a restaurant here where South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung was dining with senior Philippine officials, police said.

Mr. Kim and the officials were safe and the authorities have detained three suspected accomplices of the assailant, who was seriously wounded after firing at two soldiers standing guard outside the restaurant, police said.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, who was among the guests at the restaurant, said in a television interview that Mr. Kim was informed of the shooting and the dinner went on despite the incident.

He said the target of the attackers was still unknown.

Unconfirmed television and radio reports from the scene said the attackers were soldiers in civilian clothes who had an altercation with military aides of Mr. Ramos standing outside the Korean Garden restaurant in the Makati financial district before the shootout.

The reports said the other dignitaries attending the dinner included Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, Senator Heherson Alvarez and Senator Agapito Aquino, a brother-in-law of President Corazon Aquino.

Laurel Declares Separation From Administration

HK2208113588 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television
Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 22 Aug 88

[From "GMA News" program—slantlines denote passage in English]

[Text] Vice President Salvador Laurel has said he is now completely separated from the present administration, and can freely join political groups. This was his reaction

after President Aquino refused to resign. He also criticized the president's statement that she will not resign because her mandate comes from the people and she has a covenant with the Constitution.

[Begin Laurel recording] This was what Mr Marcos used to say when he was in office. Now she is acting like Mr Marcos. /She is supposed to do the opposite. She is supposed to be the opposite of Mr Marcos. Now she is copying him, and using even almost the same rhetoric, because Marcos himself said that all those who were critical of him were enemies of the state, and that he cannot step down because he has a contract with God and the people. That is exactly what Marcos said, and she is now mouthing the same thing./ [end recording]

Thailand

SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach Arrives

BK2208052588 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Aug 88 p 4

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach arrived in Bangkok yesterday for a five-day private visit and is scheduled to meet some members of the new Cabinet, informed sources said yesterday.

Thach, who was in Bangkok earlier this month, is expected to pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan during his stay.

A senior Vietnamese diplomat said that the Vietnamese Embassy has contacted officials for a meeting with Chatchai but no date has yet been fixed for the two leaders to meet.

Thach was in Poland for a three-week vacation.

He is expected to meet Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun this week as well, according to informed sources.

Phichai said that he would visit Vietnam soon to strengthen bilateral relations. He served as foreign minister when Thailand normalized diplomatic relations with Vietnam.

When Chatchai was appointed Thailand's prime minister, he said that he wanted to turn the battleground of Indochina into a trade zone.

Chatchai To Visit Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia

BK2008021788 Bangkok THE NATION in English
20 Aug 88 p 3

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan will visit Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia next week in his first trip abroad as government leader, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawatsila told THE NATION yesterday.

Sitthi will accompany Chatchai on the trip. The itinerary is being finalized before announcement next week.

Sitthi yesterday took a group of senior Foreign Ministry officials to pay a courtesy call on Chatchai. The new premier served as foreign minister in 1975-1976. [passage omitted]

Khukrit Views Khmer Rouge Peace Proposal
BK1908110588 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
19 Aug 88 p 9

[M.R. Khukrit Pramot's "Soi Suanphlu" Column]

[Text] The fact that the Khmer Rouge, not Vietnam, is the real obstacle to peace in Cambodia has been felt for some time by many people, but none spoke out about it.

Recently, however, Prince Sihanouk stated openly at the meeting in Indonesia that the Khmer Rouge is a major obstacle to peace and the establishment of a new government in Cambodia.

The statement was made and nothing happened. No comments followed. Of particular note is the fact that the Khmer Rouge itself did not react—either by arguing against the statement, or offering assurance that it did not plan to return to power once Vietnam had left Cambodia.

Recently, Chinese Party Secretary General Zhao Ziyang, the most politically powerful man in China, stated that it would be dangerous if the Khmer Rouge returned to power after the Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia, and that this should be prevented.

Zhao Ziyang's statement made clear China's stand and attitude on the Cambodian problem. It shows that China does not want to be accused of being responsible for creating an obstacle to peace in Cambodia as Vietnam has been adopting a more flexible attitude of late.

The Khmer Rouge's peace plan put forward on Tuesday is consistent with what Zhao Ziyang said earlier. This may be used later on by China as a condition in future negotiations with the Soviet Union.

The major points in the Khmer Rouge's peace plan are as follows:

"Withdrawal of the Vietnamese forces from Cambodia according to a set timetable and under strict international supervision within the framework of a comprehensive agreement among all parties.

"A cease-fire to be observed by all armed factions in Cambodia immediately after Vietnam starts pulling out its troops.

"Dissolution, simultaneously, of the PRK under Heng Samrin and the Democratic Kampuchea, or the tripartite coalition government under the leadership of Prince Sihanouk.

"Setting up of a provisional four-party government headed by Prince Sihanouk.

"Putting the armed forces of all Cambodian parties in garrisons under the control of a four-party Cambodian committee and supervision by an international committee.

"Setting up of a four-party Cambodian army, with each party having equal strength under a four-party high command.

"A single national army to be set up in accordance with Cambodia's constitution to be promulgated in future.

"An international conference to be convened and attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the delegation of the UN secretary general to find effective measures to guarantee Cambodia's independence, neutrality and territorial integrity.

"Setting up of an international organization to ensure that the DK, or any other Cambodian party, does not have more political power than another, and to ensure that Vietnam cannot return to commit aggression against Cambodia.

"A treaty of non-aggression to be signed between Cambodia and Vietnam."

It is still not known how other Khmer factions will react to this plan.

This shows that the Khmer Rouge itself realizes that it has been an obstacle to peace in Cambodia. As is known, of all the Khmer factions in Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge is the strongest in terms of manpower and weapons—supplied by China—compared with the forces of Prince Sihanouk, Son Sann, and the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin regime.

The Khmer Rouge knows that it is more powerful than any other faction. Yet, in its peace proposal, there is something which reflects that the Khmer Rouge is ready to sacrifice that power to eliminate the obstacle. In the earlier peace talks, there has always been a deadlock when the talks reached the point concerning leadership in Cambodia once the Vietnamese forces are all gone. This is because, to all, the Khmer Rouge is unacceptable.

China, which has been playing an important role in the Cambodian peace process, never mentioned this problem until Zhao Ziyang touched on it recently—that it is dangerous to allow the Khmer Rouge back into power in

Cambodia after the Vietnamese pullout, and this should be prevented. Zhao Ziyang's statement has immediately brightened the atmosphere regarding the Cambodian problem.

The Khmer Rouge must have known about China's intention, hence the announcement of its peace proposal. There is no indication in the content of Khmer Rouge's peace proposal that it is attempting to seek an advantage for regaining power once Vietnamese forces have been pulled out of Cambodia.

As we know, the Soviet Union also wants to see Cambodia achieve peace, independence, and neutrality. In the wake of the Khmer Rouge's peace proposal, and without objection from other parties, China and the Soviet Union are likely to hold talks at foreign ministerial level toward achieving a negotiated settlement of Cambodia. There should be no great difficulty in reaching an agreement on peace in Cambodia with all parties already sharing a common understanding.

Thailand, for many years, has been living with a war-torn and divided Cambodia. One wonders whether Thailand, especially the Thai Foreign Ministry, will be able to adjust to the new situation when Cambodia is again peaceful, independent, nonaligned, and unified.

VOFA Sees Flaws in Laos Peace Zone Plan

*BK1908102788 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English
1500 GMT 18 Aug 88*

[Article: "Vietnamese Total Troop Withdrawal From Cambodia is the First Step to Get the Zone of Peace In Southeast Asia"]

[Text] In the world today, Southeast Asia region is a troubled area where stability has been shaken with the nearly 10 years of the Kampuchean conflict. The origin of the Kampuchean problem is the Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Kampuchea which causes resistance from the Khmer nationalists. Since its birth in early 1979, the Kampuchean dispute cost so much resources, both human and material. All peace-loving nations have been attempting to search for a mutual acceptable political solution to the Kampuchean problem. Unfortunately, peace efforts have still confronted the deadlock because of Vietnam's intransigence. Along with the attempt to solve the 10-year-long Kampuchean conflict, there has been an idea to establish a zone of peace in Southeast Asia. Actually, the concept of the zone of peace in Southeast Asia was initiated by Malaysia in 1979. After the Communists took over in Indochina, the puppet Indochinese states led by Vietnam proposed a zone of genuine peace, freedom, and neutrality. But so far those concepts have not been materialized.

The idea of the establishment of the zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality was reconsidered at the Jakarta informal meeting, JIM. At the second stage of the

Jakarta informal meeting, the participants widely discussed the stability in Southeast Asia, especially Laos' seven-point proposal to build a Southeast Asia of peace, friendship, and cooperation. Laos' proposal received full support from the other two Indochinese states, namely Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The main theme on Laos' proposal lies on Items 2, 3, and 4 which are read as follows:

Two: To respect each other's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political regime. To refrain from aggression against each other and interference into each other's internal affairs. To refrain from the threat to use force and other uses of force in bilateral relations. To respect each other's territorial waters and special economic zone and the sea beds of the countries in the Eastern Sea area. To build lasting relations of friendship, equality, and cooperation, and to refrain from direct or indirect subversion against each other.

Three: To refrain from joining or forming military alliances with countries inside or outside the region to oppose each other. To refrain from using the territory of any country or offering one's own territory for use against other countries.

Four: To settle all differences and conflicts by peaceful means in keeping to the Charter of the United Nations under principles of equality, friendship, and respect for legitimate interests and security of the countries in the region. To refrain from seeking advantages for oneself in settling regional conflict to the detriment of other countries.

It should be noted that Laos' boss, Vietnam, has no sincerity and does not respect the things which its satellite state (?offers). The Vietnamese have now been labelled as the aggressors. The Vietnamese did not respect Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political regime. The Vietnamese used their superior forces to overthrow the Democratic Kampuchean Government in early 1979 by neglecting peaceful settlement of conflict, and then the Vietnamese started implementing the Vietnamization program in Kampuchea. Besides Kampuchea, the Vietnamese also interfered in the internal affairs of Laos. At present, the Vietnamese maintain their troops in both Laos and Kampuchea. More important, Vietnam, Laos, and Heng Samrin's regime have established the indirect military alliance among them by a series of treaties of friendship and cooperation.

As a peace-loving nation and a member of the United Nations, Thailand respects the principles of a sovereign state, of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, and of peaceful settlement of conflict. Thus Thailand urges the Vietnamese leaders to review their policy and to match their words with deeds. Whenever all countries in the region abide by the UN Charter and international law, peace and stability will reoccur in the region. In this connection, the first step to create a zone

of peace in Southeast Asia is to eliminate foreign occupation. That means the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia is the key factor to the establishment of the zone of peace in Southeast Asia. By doing so, the Vietnamese can promote better relations with the ASEAN states. Furthermore, peaceful international environment is very significant to internal development. At present, Vietnam's economy is in a serious situation. Vietnam is now one of the 10 poorest nations in the world. One thing which the Vietnamese leaders should bear in mind is that cooperation, not confrontation, is a major factor for development and prosperity. Why not the Vietnamese leaders [word indistinct] rethink about their policy toward neighboring countries.

Army Chiefs Continue To Plan Reciprocal Visits
BK2008022788 Bangkok THE NATION in English
20 Aug 88 p 3

[Text] Army Chief Chawalit Yongchaiyuth will not change his plan to lead a Thai delegation to Laos, a senior military officer said yesterday.

Col Phat Akkhanibut, deputy chief of staff of the Armed Forces, said Chawalit's visit to Laos, however, will be made after the trip to Thailand by Gen Sisavat Keobounphan, the Laotian Army chief of staff, scheduled for early next month.

Sisavat and his delegation earlier planned to come to Bangkok in July for a third round of talks with Chawalit to settle the Ban Romklao dispute.

Trade With Laos Increases 82 percent
BK2208013588 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Aug 88 p 3

[Text] Thai-Lao trade sharply increased by 82 percent in the first six months of this year as compared with the same period last year.

A senior official of the Bank of Thailand said that Thai-Lao trade stood at Bt684 million during the first half of this year.

He said that Thailand exported a total of Bt485.6 million of goods to Laos for an increase of 47.2 percent over the same period last year. Meanwhile, Thailand imported Bt198.4 million from Laos, or a 3.5-fold increase over the same period.

He estimated that Thai-Lao trade would be Bt1.25 billion this year.

The value of goods which were transported through Thailand to Laos was only Bt482.4 million in the first half this year, a decline of 6.5 percent as compared with the same period last year, the official said.

Vietnamese Forces Shell Border Villages

BK2008070688 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English
1500 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] About 80 Vietnamese artillery shells fired from across the border landed in Thai villages. No casualties were reported. The shells fell into Ban Kudin, Ban Nongkhae, Ban Khlong Nam Sai, Ban Pakang, and Ban Lamlongkhlong about 20 km south of Aranyaprathet District, Prachin Buri Province. Over 400 villagers were evacuated as fighting between Vietnamese and Khmer Rouge forces continued just a few kilometers from the border inside Kampuchea.

Country's Economic, Social Situation Analyzed
BK1908081988 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
19 Aug 88 p 3

["Analysis" by Sucha Chunlaphet: "A Comprador Government?"]

[Text] Now is the time to lay to rest the dream about Thailand becoming a newly industrialized country [NIC]. The appearance of the Chatchai-Praman government reflects the true picture of Thailand and the government reflects the country's economic and social situation.

The road to NIC status is mined with the danger of the country being diverted into an industrial colony state. Capital is what separates a NIC and an industrial colony state. If industrial development of the country is triggered by stable growth of national capital, then the nation becomes a true NIC. But if industrialization is imposed upon the country by foreign capital through local comprador capitalists, the country invariably becomes an industrial colony.

What is the Chatchai-Praman government and who does the Chat Thai party represent? A look at the past and present of the party and the two individuals will show unquestionably that they are basically comprador capitalists. They have been compradors for the Japanese textile industry and the Thai-Asahi Glass Company, and in the final Prem government, in which the Chat Thai party managed the industry ministry, there was a tremendous expansion of foreign capital investment. Foreign-owned industrial factories mushroomed under the protection of the Board of Investment and the Industrial Factory Law through which the industry minister wielded great authority.

With the experience and skills of a comprador, the period of swelling foreign investment enabled the Chat Thai party that controlled the Industry Ministry to grow most strongly. This wealth translated into the 87 seats the party won in the latest election, and it can be truly attributed to foreign capital.

While the size of foreign capital through transnational companies grew to the point that it could have taken over Thailand, Thai-owned businesses and factories which represented national capital were virtually destroyed. All of this amid resounding calls for NIC status.

Destruction of national capital is tantamount to the total elimination of the foundations for the country's advance toward NIC status. Any industrial growth that remains is imaginary and illusory because what you see are foreign industries.

There is now no use talking about becoming a NIC because a line has been drawn for Thai society to tread, and it is toward becoming an industrial colony with the strong support of the comprador government.

The Thai people will have to timidly accept poverty and the fact that a society begets its government.

Chatchai Indicates Economy in 'Good Shape'

BK2108005288 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Aug 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Revenue has surpassed the target by 40,000 million baht and the surplus will help reduce the country's loan commitment by 3,000 million baht a year. Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said yesterday.

Maj-Gen [Major General] Chatchai said the surplus indicated the economy was in good shape, and the Government would consider a pay rise for officials after delivering its policy statement to Parliament on Thursday. [25 August]

Budget Bureau director Bodi Chunnanon said the Government had directed that the increase be done through a structure adjustment rather than a living allowance.

The structural method would cost twice as much, said Mr Bodi, and it was up to the Government to decide if it had sufficient funds to finance an increase.

Maj-Gen Chatchai said the fiscal 1989 budget would probably increase but the Government would adhere to the principle that a balance be maintained between revenue and expenditure of the national budget.

The most important expenditure item, he said, would be rural development. [passage omitted]

Opposition Forming 'Shadow Cabinet'

BK2108010088 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
21 Aug 88 p 8

[From the "Inprint" column: "Opposition Forms Shadow Cabinet"]

[Text] The parliamentary Opposition, more organized than its predecessors, is forming a shadow Cabinet to show that its candidates are more "suitable" than those now in government, SIAM RAT reports.

The Opposition chooses its line-up on the basis of "competence" and "suitability" to the jobs, "not merely to allocate people to ministries in order to fulfill (party) quotas," the weekly quotes an opposition source as saying.

The shadow Cabinet is being formed because "we feel the present government will not last long and therefore we have to be prepared to take over," the source adds.

According to the weekly, the Opposition has so far unofficially sent its watchdogs to nine ministries of defence, interior, finance, industry, agriculture, communications, health, commerce, and justice.

Its shadow prime minister is Narong Wongwan because his Ruam Thai Party has the largest number of parliamentary seats among the opposition parties.

"But if we get a chance to form a government, we may ask present coalition parties to join and the prime minister may well be someone else, for instance Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila or Gen Athit Kamlang-ek," the source is quoted as noting.

The Opposition's shadow Cabinet is as follows:

Defence: Former Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, leader of the Puangchon Chao Thai Party, and Col Narong Kittikhachon of the Liberal Party.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, who concurrently holds the defence portfolio, will have to watch his step because though a former cavalry man, he has been out of the military picture for a long time, the weekly notes.

"Gen Athit should know more about which way the wind blows in the armed forces and any mistake made by Maj-Gen Chatchai is bound to meet with an opposition storm," it adds.

Interior: Former House Speaker Uthai Phimchaichon, leader of the Progressive Party.

Mr Uthai is a seasoned politician with solid legal training and Interior Minister Praman Adireksan opened his term with a gaffe on the sensitive subject of casinos, the weekly points out.

Finance: Bunchu Rotchanasathian of the Community Action Party.

The weekly notes there was considerable tossing of this key post from one party to another before it was eventually given to Pramuan Saphawasu of the Chat Thai. There is "no comparison" between Mr Bunchu, a man of experience in finance and banking, and Minister Pramuan Saphawasu, it says.

Industry: Chaloephan Siwikon of the Prachachon Party.

Industry Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha has shown that he can come out on top of even scandalous situations but Mr Chaloephan, as a businessman of long-standing, should know how to keep him in check, the weekly adds.

Agriculture: Naron Wongwan of Ruam Thai.

In the weekly's view, Agriculture Minister Sanan Kachonprasat of the Democrat Party faces a formidable opposite in Mr Narong, who once held the portfolio, has long been in agriculture, and enjoys widespread prestige.

Communications: Samak Suntharawat of the Prachakon Thai Party.

With this opposition spearhead watching his performance, Montri Phongpanit of the Social Action Party [SAP] faces "a giant bone" as Mr Samak is a former communication minister and "a clever politician who digs with extreme persistence," the weekly says.

Public Health: Dr Bunthiam Khemaphirat, also of Prachakon Thai.

Health Minister Chuan Likphai "has the image of being a good, honest man....but given that he is a lawyer but has to look after public health, there is room for error," the weekly says. [sentence as published]

Commerce: Koson Krairoek of Prachakon Thai.

Minister Subin Pinkhayan of SAP also has a good, clean record and is a person with know-how but likewise could falter in dealing with merchants, it says. Mr Koson is a former holder of this portfolio.

Justice: Piyanat Watcharaphon of Ruam Thai.

In this shadow minister, Justice Minister Chamrat Mangkhlarat faces a man who is "known to be second to no-one," the weekly says.

The Opposition, it notes, has already set its plan of action, the first task being critical analysis of the government policy to be declared on August 25. It also plans thorough monitoring of the Budget Bill, with teams scrutinising reach ministerial allocation. [sentence as published]

With a more systematic Opposition in Parliament, the Government will have to be well-prepared as there are a number of issues that could be seized as causes for criticism, among them corruption, the controversy over the number of government ministers, and the long-standing demand for live broadcasts of House debates, the weekly notes.

Military Moves Into Three Pagodas Pass Town
BK2108045888 Bangkok THE NATION in English
21 Aug 88 p 2

[Text] Three Pagodas Pass, Kanchanaburi—Thai soldiers have entered this border town to negotiate with Karen and Mon troops in an attempt to move the combatting Burmese minorities off Thai soil, informed sources in the area told THE NATION.

The sources said Thai officers succeeded in getting the troops to withdraw on Thursday at 6 pm from Thailand's Three Pagodas village, which was partially destroyed by shelling.

The Karen troops, under the command of Baw You Phaw, number about 2,000, while the Mon fielded about 700 and are led by Aung Naing and Htaw Mon, sources from both groups told THE NATION.

The sources said both factions have also halted the fighting temporarily since Friday at 8 am pending peace negotiations scheduled early next week. The cease-fire was part of a successful attempt by the National Democratic Front (NDF), the 10-member ethnic force set up in March 1976 to fight the Rangoon government.

The death toll on the Mon side is estimated at 25 and about 50 wounded, according to Mon sources, while the Karen losses are unknown.

Both Gen Bo Mya head of the Karen and Nai Nonla Raman of the Mon are expected to attend the peace talks organized by the NDF. Saw Maw Reh, a leader of the Karen and chairman of the NDF, will chair the meeting while other NDF representatives join as arbitrators.

Col Chalong Chotikham, chief-of-staff of the Thai 9th Infantry Division, said the situation at the Thai-Burmese border was not serious, and that it is a common matter to have Thai troops monitoring a clash between outside forces on Thai territory.

The Mon and the Karen have been quarrelling for years over the control of the Mon-dominated Three Pagodas village, about 350 kilometres from Bangkok and about 23 kilometres from Sangkhlaburi district in the remote, mountainous western province.

Illegal tax collection on incoming and outgoing goods in the thriving black market village is believed to be another cause of the bloody feud, which both sides have been accusing the other of starting.

The latest serious clash at the village on July 23 forced thousands of Mon, Karen, Indians, Laotians, and Chinese as well as Thais to take refuge deep inside Thai territory. A Thai official, who witnessed the incidents, said nearly 5,000 villagers fled to the Thai side on August 6 alone.

The public has been barred from using the Sangkhlaburi-Three Pagodas highway, the only accessible route to the border village.

Thai authorities have stopped the flood of refugees from entering Sangkhlaburi and placed them in temporary shelters in Songkalia, about 10 Pagodas village. [sentence as published] The Mons said their political party and Mon people in Sangkhlaburi are providing food and medical treatment to the estimated 7,000 villagers at the temporary refugee site.

But some refugees managed to sneak out and are staying either in Sangkhlaburi or Mhong Sa Theu, a small Mon village 12 kilometres from Sangkhlaburi.

A number of Mon have moved to the NMSP's [New Mon State Party] headquarters and an army command post in Nam Gerd village about 6 kilometres from the border. A Mon requesting anonymity said 600-700 Mon are currently hiding in the forest.

Unconfirmed reports said there were cases of looting and raping by Thais on refugees in Songkalia. But Kanchanaburi Governor Prida Muttaharat refused to comment when contacted on Friday.

On this issue, Col Chalong said he has not received any reports of such deeds. "Plenty of people are staying there now. Somebody might do it, but then the blame falls on Thai soldiers. I couldn't answer the question, because I haven't yet seen any cases," he said.

The condition of the Karen who have fled from the fighting in the village is unknown since most of them are staying in Burmese territory. But many are believed to be staying with their relatives in Sangkhlaburi.

Military Presence at Cabinet Meetings Viewed
BK2008091788 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai
20 Aug 88 p 8

[Editorial: "The Military and Cabinet Meeting"]

[Text] Many circles have expressed opposition to Prime Minister Major General Chatchai Chunhawan's reported plan to invite military representatives to participate in cabinet meetings, saying there is no precedent and that they do not think the military will agree.

The idea of inviting military representatives to participate in cabinet meetings probably arises from a fear of undesirable actions by the military. The invitation is aimed at pleasing the military because the latter will be informed about the country's affairs.

People often say that democracy in Thailand has not been stable because of meddling and coups by the military and that military support is essential for the government's survival. This sort of belief makes everything depend on the military; the government has to

consider what the military may think about any action it wants to take. Projects and even draft bills have been discarded simply because they might incur the wrath of the military. Due to this type of government thinking, the military—which normally might have been obedient—has gradually become involved in the country's affairs. In the end, because of the government's cowardly nature, the military has had to become involved even though it never considered any involvement in the first place. As a result, the government's survival hinges on the military.

We are not sure about how confident the Chatchai government is, but we wish to see it be independent and administer the country courageously along accepted principles without trying excessively to please the military.

At the same time, we are confident that the military under the current commander will understand the military's role and its limits of political involvement. We hope it will not exploit the current government's intention to please it in order to do whatever it wants because doing that will spoil the established proper process in our country.

Vietnam

Sigur Statement 'Hinders' Improved Relations
BK2208010288 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] According to the "Voice of America" radio, on 29 July Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Sigur stated before a group of U.S. congressmen that the setting up of a low-level foreign office in Hanoi can in no way improve the cooperation between the United States and Vietnam in various humanitarian issues, that the United States must persist in its present policies, and that it must seek ways to isolate Vietnam until a Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia is negotiated.

This statement by Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Sigur has run counter to the trend of public opinion as well as to the aspiration of the American people and armed forces and has hindered the process of improving relations between the two countries.

Hanoi Reports Differences on Quayle Nomination
BK2108050288 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The Republican Party's national convention ended in New Orleans on 18 August after adopting the 30,000-word platform and officially appointing Vice President George Bush and Senator Dan Quayle as respectively presidential and vice presidential candidates for election to the White House, late this year.

(Atrolen), adviser to the Republican Party, who worked in Reagan's 1984 presidential campaign, contended that Bush's campaign committee transgressed the basic

points for presidential selection, that is, a person who has not undergone trials should not, in any way, be selected as a vice presidential candidate; that the appointment of a person not well-known nationally should be made earlier to clear all suspicions before the national convention and to provide party leaders with enough time to strengthen their unity in favor of the party's nominees; and, that a vice presidential candidate should come from an important state or should be a person who can attract important groups of voters. Bush failed to accomplish all these three points.

Haiphong Expands Cooperation With Soviet Region
BK1908154588 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT
19 Aug 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 19—The Port City of Haiphong and the Far Eastern coastal region of the Soviet Union will promote their cooperation in building industry, agriculture, the production of consumer commodities, trade, tourism, cultural and artistic activities.

This was reached during the recent visit to the Soviet Far Eastern coastal region by Le Danh Xuong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of the city's party committee.

While in the Soviet Union, the Vietnamese delegation had working sessions with G. Gagarov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the region, and other senior officials of the region.

Vu Mao-Led Delegation Visits USSR
BK2008153488 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT
20 Aug 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 20—A delegation of the Office of the National Assembly and the State Council led by its head, Vu Mao, who is also member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and of the State Council, visited the Soviet Union from August 10-19. While there, it paid tributes at Lenin's mausoleum and the tomb of the unknown soldier. It had working session with various bodies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and its Presidium as well as with the Soviet Executive Committees of the People's Representatives in the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Autonomous Republic of Bashkir.

Harare Conference Communique on Cambodia
BK2208104388 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] As reported earlier, the second conference on Cambodia of high-ranking officials of the nonaligned countries was held from 15 to 17 August 1988 in Harare, Zimbabwe. Attending the conference were delegates from Cuba, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Zimbabwe, and the PLO. The conference has issued a 10-point communique which include the following:

—The conference noted with satisfaction the results of the Jakarta Informal Meeting, considering it a breakthrough in negotiations among the four Cambodian factions and countries in the region to restore peace and stability in Southeast Asia, as can be seen through the general unanimity achieved at this meeting.

—The conference considered the Nonaligned Movement chairman's initiative on seeking a negotiated solution to the Cambodia issue as an important step.

—The conference noted with satisfaction the Jakarta Informal Meeting's decision on holding, as soon as possible, a session of the working groups in Jakarta to examine specific aspects of a political solution [to the Cambodian issue] and to make suggestions for the convening of another meeting.

—The conference noted with encouragement various positive dialogues at the Jakarta and other forums, including the Hun Sen-Sihanouk dialogue, aimed at seeking a peaceful solution through negotiations for the Cambodian issue.

—The conference expressed the hope that the Jakarta Informal Meeting will fully and consistently inform the Nonaligned Movement of developments on a solution to the Cambodian issue at its forum. Regarding this matter, the conference acknowledged that Indonesia shall inform the nonaligned foreign ministerial conference to be held in Cyprus on results of the Jakarta Informal Meeting.

—The conference suggested that a nonaligned committee on Cambodia be established in accordance with regulations of the Nonaligned Movement to carry out its initiatives. Preparations have been made for the establishment of this committee.

—The conference further suggested that the size of the said Nonaligned Movement's committee on Cambodia should be small, so that it may carry out tasks effectively.

—The conference suggested that Zimbabwe—as chairman of the movement and host of this high-ranking official conference—shall organize an informal meeting of the foreign ministers of Cuba, Indonesia, the PLO, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe in connection with the non-aligned foreign ministerial conference to be held in Nicosia to examine this report before submitting it to the foreign ministerial conference.

Delegation Attends Conference on Cambodia
BK2008152988 Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT
20 Aug 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 20—A Vietnamese delegation led by Le Mai, assistant to the foreign minister, has attended a nonaligned conference on Kampuchea recently held in Harare, Zimbabwe.

The conference adopted the final report, highly appreciating the unanimity of view and the meaningful breakthrough obtained at the Jakarta informal meeting (JIM), especially the identification of the two interrelated key problems of the Kampuchea issue, namely the withdrawal of the Vietnamese Army from Kampuchea in the framework of an overall political solution and the prevention of the recurrence of the Pol Pot regime's genocidal policies and activities, and an end to all interference and arms supply from outside to the Kampuchean opposing factions.

The conference satisfactorily noted that the process of dialogue at the JIM and other tribunes, the Hunsen-Sihanouk meetings included, were positively taking place.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Afghanistan
BK1908122588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1115 GMT 19 Aug 88

[SRV Foreign Ministry's 19 August 1988 statement]

[Text] On 15 August 1988, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Government issued statements severely criticizing Pakistan's unconstructive attitude toward and its serious and systematic violation of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan. Faithful to their peaceful and good-willed policy, the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union have, since the Geneva accords on Afghanistan came into effect, scrupulously honored all their obligations and done their utmost to create conditions for the serious implementation of the Geneva accords and to normalize the situation around Afghanistan.

By 15 August 1988, half of the Soviet volunteer army in Afghanistan had been withdrawn home in accordance with the spirit of the accords. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan has made great efforts and undertaken positive measures aimed at promptly ending the bloodshed, restoring peace, and setting up a broad coalition government in Afghanistan. Much better progress could have been made toward ending the conflict and restoring peace in Afghanistan had the United States and Pakistan actively and consistently carried out their commitments. It is regrettable, however, that the situation in Afghanistan continues to remain tense at present because the Pakistani Administration has blatantly violated the accords and continued aiding the opposition forces in Afghanistan, opposing and undermining the Republic of Afghanistan, and interfering in its internal affairs.

As a country that, together with the Soviet Union, is a guarantor of the implementation of the accords, the United States has not only failed to check Pakistan's hostile policy but has also encouraged opposition forces in Afghanistan to carry out sabotage activities against the

Afghan Government and people. These actions are of concern to all those who sincerely wish for the restoration of peace and stability in Afghanistan and South Asia.

The SRV Government totally supports the 15 August 1988 statements of the Governments of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and warmly welcomes the constructive stand and good-willed attitude of the Soviet Union and the Republic of Afghanistan toward the implementation of the Geneva accords.

The Vietnamese Government and people highly appreciate the policy of national reconciliation of the Republic of Afghanistan and greatly rejoice over the new, multi-sided successes recorded by the Afghan people in the defense of their revolutionary gains.

The Vietnamese Government and people demand that the Pakistani and American side respond to the goodwill of the Soviet Union and the Republic of Afghanistan, scrupulously respect and carry out all the provisions of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan, and stop interfering in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan so as to quickly bring about a peaceful life for the people of the Republic of Afghanistan and contribute to consolidating peace and stability in the region and the rest of the world.

Le Duc Anh Greets Afghan Armed Forces
BK2108031488 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] On the occasion of the 10th founding anniversary of the Afghan Armed Forces Day, 19 August 1978-19 August 1988, Senior General Le Duc Anh, SRV minister of national defense on 19 August sent a congratulatory message to his Afghan counterpart.

The message says in part: We believe that the people and Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, under the leadership of the Afghan People's Democratic Party, will surely score new, ever greater achievements in protecting the revolutionary gains, in restoring peace and stability for the people's daily life, and in building an independent and prosperous Afghan nation, thereby positively contributing to maintaining peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

Team To Participate in Seoul Olympics
BK2008024488 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The 24th Olympic Games will open this September in Seoul, South Korea. Some \$800 million has been spent building dozens of additional sport contest centers.

This time the Olympics will open with the participation of over 13,000 athletes from various countries in the world contesting in 25 events.

Initial estimates show that the Australian delegation will have approximately 500 members; the Canadian delegation, 200; the Soviet delegation, 500; and the U.S. delegation, over 800. A 1,848-man referee board has been set up and 9,000 newsmen from various countries have registered to cover the Olympics.

At this Olympics, the Vietnamese delegation will participate in various events such as free-style wrestling, marksmanship, swimming, and track and field. These are the same games that our delegation already contested at the 22d Olympics in Moscow in 1980.

Vietnamese athletes attending this Seoul Olympics will be Phi Huu Tinh and Nguyen Kim Huong (free-style wrestling), Nguyen Van Quyet and Nguyen Dinh Minh (track and field), and Nguyen Kieu Oanh (swimming).

Vo Chi Cong Sends Message on Ziaul Haq's Death
BK1908133788 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Vietnamese State Council President Vo Chi Cong on Friday [19 August] sent a message of condolences over the death of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq in a aircraft accident.

The message was addressed to Pakistan's Acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and the bereaved family of the late President Ziaul Haq.

Chatchai's Son Quoted on Trade With Indochina
BK1908100588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] According to the Thai papers BANGKOK POST and THE NATION, on 15 August a seminar was held at Thammasat University on the theme: "Policies of the New Government: What the Government Should and Should Not Do." Thai Prime Minister Chatchai attended the seminar.

Professor Kraisaak Chunhawan, son of and personal adviser to Chatchai said at the seminar that Thailand should stop supporting the Khmer Rouge. Since other countries do not trust the Khmer Rouge, Thailand's support for this group cannot, in any way, restore its prestige. He said: I support the expansion of trade with Indochinese countries.

Ton Duc Thang's 100th Birthday Commemorated
BK1908133388 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Mr Pham Van Dong, adviser of the CPV Central Committee, says: President Ton Duc Thang is the state leader, a staunch revolutionary fighter whose life closely [words indistinct] speaking at a meeting to mark the centenary birth of the late President Ton Duc Thang

held on Friday [19 August] at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi by the CPV Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, the VFF, and the Hanoi Party Committee.

Mr Pham Van Dong pointed out that President Ton Duc Thang had set for the Vietnamese people an example of public spirit, selflessness, and simplicity.

Also at this meeting, President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong said: President Ton Duc Thang is the close comrade-in-arms of President Ho Chi Minh, an internationalist fighter, and the pride of the entire Vietnamese party and people. President Vo Chi Cong called on the Vietnamese people to follow the example set forth by President Ton Duc Thang to successfully implement the resolution of the sixth party congress.

Speaking at the meeting, Soviet Ambassador to Vietnam Kachin said that the late President Ton Duc Thang was a bright example of proletarian internationalism and one of the Vietnamese leaders supporting the Great October Revolution. Ambassador Kachin pointed out that the Soviet Union highly valued the late President Ton Duc Thang's contributions to the strengthening of the friendship relations between the two countries of the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

Present at the meeting were Pham Van Dong and Truong Chinh, advisers to the party Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and other high-ranking officials of Vietnam. Representatives of mass organizations and representatives of the diplomatic corps to Vietnam were also on hand.

Ton Duc Thang Praised by USSR Envoy
BK1908153988 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT
19 Aug 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 19—A get-together was held here this afternoon to mark the birth centenary of the late President Ton Duc Thang, who succeeded President Ho Chi Minh as head of the Vietnamese state from 1969 to his demise in 1979.

The get-together was attended by Truong Chinh and Pham Van Dong, advisers to the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, Politburo member of the party Central Committee and president of the State Council; Hoang Quoc Viet, honorary president of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front; and many other party and state leaders.

Also present was Soviet Ambassador D.I. Kachin.

The speakers on the occasion included Pham Van Dong, Vo Chi Cong, and many cadres who for many years worked side by side with the late president. They all praised President Ton Duc Thang as one of the first fighters in the worker and national liberation movement

of Vietnam, a long-time close comrade-in-arms of President Ho Chi Minh, and a staunch internationalist combatant. They were unanimous that President Ton Duc Thang's contributions to the revolution and his virtues would forever serve as a bright example and a source of immense pride for the entire party and people of Vietnam.

Ambassador Kachin praised President Ton Duc Thang's great contributions to the friendship and solidarity between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. (The president was a sailor who hoisted the Soviet flag on board a French warship in the Black Sea in support of the October Revolution in 1919).

In the morning, a delegation of the party Central Committee, the National Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, and the people's and party committees of Hanoi, paid a floral tribute to President Ton Duc Thang at his grave in Mai Dich National Cemetery. The delegation included Truong Chinh, Vo Chi Cong and Hoang Quoc Viet.

Also this morning, the Hanoi People's Committee held a ceremony to give the president's name to Hang Bot Street, a most ancient street leading to the Temple of Culture in downtown Hanoi, the first university of ancient Vietnam built in the 11th century.

Vo Chi Cong Gives Speech

*BK2108142788 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 20 Aug 88*

[Speech by Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong at 19 August meeting in Hanoi to mark late President Ton Duc Thang's 100th birthday—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear friends, as reported, a meeting was organized at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall on the afternoon of 19 August by the party Central Committee, the National Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, the VFF Central Committee, and the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee and People's Committee to mark Uncle Ton's 100th birthday.

Speaking at the meeting, Comrade Vo Chi Cong, on behalf of our party and state, highly valued Uncle Ton's great contributions to the National Assembly, the State Council, the great national solidarity bloc, and the young generation of our country. State Council Chairman Vo Chi Cong said:

Today, our entire party and people mark President Ton Duc Thang's 100th birthday at the same time as the 43d anniversary of the success of the August Revolution. When we think of Uncle Ton, we think of him as one of the first fighters of the workers' movement and the national liberation movement in our country, as one of great President Ho Chi Minh's close and life-long comrades-in-arms, and as a stalwart, brave international

fighter. Uncle Ton's revolutionary deeds and ethics will always remain shining examples and a source of great pride for our entire party and people.

Uncle Ton spent his entire noble life working for the fatherland's independence, freedom, and socialism, and for the people's happiness. By taking part in the French Navy-initiated uprising in the Black Sea in 1919 to support and protect the Soviet October Revolution, he performed an international solidarity act that was later written down in golden letters in the history of the development and consolidation of cooperation and friendship between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

Uncle Ton's revolutionary lifetime, which lasted for more than half a century and was rife with difficulties and challenges, is full of rich lessons for us to learn. Whatever position he was required to perform by the party, the state, and the VFF, Uncle Ton always displayed loyalty, dedication, great militancy, modesty, and simplicity. Uncle Ton's life was the most typical evidence of our party and Uncle Ho's great solidarity policy. One of Uncle Ton's happiest moments lay in the fact that he had witnessed the reunification of the fatherland, the entire nation's advance toward socialism, and the complete liberation of My An Hamlet, his place of birth in An Giang Province.

Today, as we are looking back on Uncle Ton's life, we also have the opportunity to review the countless changes and marvelous things that have taken place in our country over the last century. On this occasion, we take greater pride in the Vietnamese people's vitality and dignity and in the CPV's historic mission and noble responsibilities.

We are commemorating Uncle Ton's 100th birthday today and we will mark Uncle Ho's 100th birthday 2 years from now. We are determined to follow the examples set by Uncles Ho and Ton, to maintain our confidence in the party and state, to overcome all difficulties and hardship, and to fulfill the heavy tasks set forth by the Sixth CPV Congress resolution.

Nguyen Huu Tho Attends Ceremony

*BK2108100188 Hanoi VNA in English 0718 GMT
21 Aug 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 21—A meeting was held in Van Binh Village, Thuong Tin District, Ha Son Binh Province to mark the 100th birthday of the late President Ton Duc Thang and the 26th anniversary of his visit to the village.

Present on the occasion, among others, was Nguyen Huu Tho, vice president of the State Council.

In his speech to the rally, Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho highly commended the local people on their achievements, especially in education over the past 26 years since President Ton Duc Thang's visit in 1962.

Now the village has a total of 40 classrooms of basic general school level with 1,580 pupils, 13 kindergarten classrooms with 376 children, and 4 creches with 130 babies. It also has a club, a library, and a playground for children. The village closely coordinated with the Olof Palme Children's Hospital in Hanoi and the district hospital in providing health care for the children.

Vice President Nguyen Huu Tho called at the working place of Production Group 3 where President Ton Duc Thang had planted an avocado tree as a souvenir.

Mass Meetings Mark Celebration

*BK2108153188 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT
21 Aug 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 21—Mass meetings have been arranged in many places of Vietnam to mark the 100th birthday of the late President Ton Duc Thang August 20, 1988.

Present at a meeting at the Ba Son Shipyard in Ho Chi Minh City on August 19 were Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, Vo Tran Chi, secretary of the city party committee, and others.

The meeting in An Giang, native province of the late president, on August 20 was attended by Vo Van Kiet, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly; and Nguyen Van Hon, secretary of the provincial party committee.

Earlier, on August 18 and 19, a symposium on the late president's life and revolutionary cause was also organized in An Giang Province.

A ceremony was held in Ho Chi Minh City yesterday morning to start the construction of the Ton Duc Thang museum at No. 5, Ton Duc Thang Boulevard.

Also on this occasion, two exhibitions on President Ton Duc Thang were held in Ho Chi Minh City.

Daily Marks August Revolution Anniversary

*BK1908102388 Hanoi VNA in English 0740 GMT
19 Aug 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 19—NHAN DAN today editorially marks the 43rd anniversary of the August Revolution (August 19) saying: The August Revolution is a vivid manifestation of bringing into the fullest play of the fine traditions of the Vietnamese nation and revolution. It has enriched those traditions and created valuable moral values for the Vietnamese people's cause.

The paper points out:

"Initial results obtained in the materialization of the party's resolution have actuated the potential of the social labor force and created a number of positive

factors. However, renovation is a complicated and difficult process, promoting our strong points, correcting our mistakes and shortcomings which have lasted for many years, and overcoming big difficulties in production and life constitute a persistent struggle which requires the correct implementation of the party's resolutions and the state's policies."

NHAN DAN concludes:

"To bring the spirit of the August Revolution into the process of renovation also means to make full use of advantages created by the international situation, to better combine the nation's strength with that of the time, to strengthen and develop the cooperation with fraternal countries, step up the national construction and defense, and, at the same time, to contribute to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism."

Mai Chi Tho Addresses Border Defense Cadres

*BK1908141988 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 18 Aug 88*

[Text] On the occasion of the 43d anniversaries of the success of the August Revolution and the founding of the People's Public Security Force, this morning Comrade Mai Chi Tho, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and minister of interior, paid a working visit to the Border Defense Force Command.

On behalf of the interior ministry's leadership, Comrade Mai Chi Tho extended his greetings to cadres and combatants currently performing their duties at the borders and on the remote offshore islands of the fatherland.

Addressing the cadres and combatants on hand, Comrade Mai Chi Tho commended the great achievements scored by the Border Defense Force. He reminded them to quickly strengthen their conviction, stabilize their organizations, maintain unity in fighting and work, and guard against all weaknesses that may be exploited by the enemy and bad elements to carry out sabotage activities. Border defense troops should satisfactorily formulate and implement plans for close coordination with the People's Army, the People's Public Security Force, and local militia and self-defense forces to put into full play their aggregate strength to satisfactorily fulfill their task of safeguarding political security and public order and safety.

Nghe Tinh Acts Against Party Cadres, Members

*BK1908075588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 18 Aug 88*

[Text] Various echelons of party organizations of Nghe Tinh Province are paying particular attention to improving and enhancing the quality of party cadres. The province is rearranging key cadres from the provincial to grass-roots levels. Many members of provincial and

district party committees, heads and deputy heads of provincial sectors and branches and those of district offices and sections have been reassigned to new positions. The province has promoted 60 cadres attached to the provincial party committee and 178 cadres attached to district party committee. In general, the newly promoted cadres are young people who have a good educational background and who have been trained through practical tasks.

The province has also taken decisive disciplinary action against cadres who have violated discipline or became degenerate. Six directors and deputy directors of branches and sectors at provincial level faced disciplinary action ranging from a warning to dismissal. The province has also taken disciplinary action against 170 key cadres in 19 districts. It is currently formulating a

program to improve cadre work and is making preparations to hold party organization congresses at the district level so as to ensure that capable and trustworthy cadres are elected to new party committees.

Haiphong Streamlines Agencies, Offices

*BK1908044588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 18 Aug 88*

[Text] Implementing the renovation of management mechanism, Haiphong Municipality since early this year has abolished 12 agencies attached to its people's committee comprising 7 offices, 1 department, and 4 management, production, and business organizations. The municipality also shut down 41 offices of various services and 67 offices of wards and districts. In rearranging production, the municipality has dissolved 38 enterprises, corporations, and unions attached to sectors, wards, and districts.

Australia

Prime Minister Hawke Announces Reshuffle

BK2208062788 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The immigration and ethnic affairs minister, Mr Clyde Holding, has been dropped from the federal cabinet in a reshuffle announced by Prime Minister Mr Hawke. Mr Holding will take over the junior ministerial portfolio of arts and territories but has indicated that he will not be seeking a ministerial position after the next election. As expected, Mr Holding's Victorian colleague, Senator Robert Ray has been promoted into the cabinet as the new immigration minister.

In the other changes, Senator Gareth Evans becomes foreign affairs minister, Mr Ralph Willis will switch to transport and communications, while Mr Peter Morris takes over industrial relations, (?a newcomer) into the cabinet.

AFP Reports Details

BK2208093888 Hong Kong AFP in English 0845 GMT
22 Aug 88

[Text] Canberra, Aug 22 (AFP)—Australian prime minister named Senator Gareth Evans as the country's next foreign affairs and trade minister Monday, filling the vacancy left by Governor General-Designate Bill Hayden.

The 44-year-old Mr. Evans, a barrister and senior lecturer in constitutional law before entering Parliament in 1978, was one of the winners in the ministerial reshuffle which will take effect on September 2.

So too was Home Affairs Minister Robert Ray, who will take over the sensitive immigration and ethnic affairs portfolio which carries cabinet rank.

Immigration Minister Clyde Holding was the main loser, demoted from cabinet to be arts and territories minister following criticism within the labor government over his performance in a current debate over Asian immigration.

Political observers said Mr. Holding had not responded aggressively enough to opposition leader John Howard's call for a slowdown in Asian immigration, an emotive issue which has strained the traditional bipartisan party approach.

In other moves, Ralph Willis will move into Mr. Evans' former portfolio of transport and communications and Transport Support Minister Peter Morris will succeed Mr. Willis as industrial relations minister.

Arts and Territories Minister Garry Punch will become junior minister to Mr. Willis in transport and communications, along with a new member of the ministry to be elected by the labor parliamentary caucus next week.

Mr. Hawke said he expected that a factional deal over the new minister would hold in caucus, meaning the vacancy would go to the nominee of the centre-left faction. In an upset decision Monday, the faction nominated backbencher Bob Brown for the vacancy, ahead of former career diplomat, Gordon Bilney.

The prime minister said he was announcing the changes before they came into effect to avoid protracted speculation. Ministers would meanwhile continue in their present positions and Trade Negotiations Minister Michael Duffy would continue as acting foreign minister until the reshuffle was formalised.

Mr. Hawke later told reporters that he received a letter from Mr. Holding Monday in which the demoted minister said he would not seek a ministerial position after the next election. But he refused to give details of talks with Mr. Holding who is understood to have tried to retain his present position.

The prime minister said Mr. Holding, in addition to his responsibilities for arts and territories, would assist Senator Ray in the immigration and ethnic affairs portfolio. He also said that Social Security Minister Brian Howe would have the added responsibility of assisting him on social justice issues.

Mr. Evans, nicknamed "Biggles," was the Hawke government's first attorney-general in 1983. He later became minister for resources and energy before taking over the new super department of transport and communications after a federal election in July last year.

He frequently filled the role of acting foreign minister during Mr. Hayden's 42 trips abroad on government business prior to his resignation last week to clear the way for his appointment as governor general in February.

Senator Ray, 41, a school teacher before his election to the Senate in 1981, was promoted to the ministry this year. Known as "The Big Fellow," he is the leader of the party's right-wing faction in the State of Victoria.

Mr. Willis, 50, a former research officer and industrial advocate for the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), is a protege of Mr. Hawke who was ACTU president from 1970-80. In taking over transport and communications, he will head a department with major responsibility for implementing the government's crucial micro-economic reform agenda.

Mr. Morris, 56, previously served as minister for transport and minister for aviation before taking over transport support—an appointment which many in the party believed was beneath his capabilities.

Mr. Holding, 57, is expected to quit politics at the next election, clearing the way for the entry into federal politics of ACTU President Simon Crean.

New Caledonia

Accord Signed in Paris on Political Settlement

LD2008095888 Paris Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] It was at 0500 today after a whole night of talks that the accord on New Caledonia was signed at the Ministry of Overseas Departments and Territories. The representatives of the Kanaks Socialist National Liberation Front [FLNKS] and the Rally for Caledonia in the Republic [RPCR] agreed to sign the text with Luis Le Penec, minister of overseas departments and territories. The bill, which comprises approximately 100 articles, will be the subject of a referendum this October or November. It includes the main terms of the Matignon Agreement that was finalized last month. But throughout the night there was a great deal of discussion about the amnesty for which the FLNKS is calling. Bruno Cessnec reports:

[Cessnec] That's correct. Most of the talks were devoted to the contents of the amnesty measures which are to accompany the establishment of new institutions. This was, in fact, an overriding condition for the FLNKS. The separatists were hoping to see these measures broadened to include crimes of violence, but the government balked at the idea, considering it inconceivable to accept an amnesty for those directly responsible for committing these violent crimes, a dozen of whom are currently in prison. Louis Le Penec, supported by the RPCR, would not yield on this, with the result that this sensitive question of the amnesty—if we are to believe Jean-Marie Tjibaou—could have scuppered the talks as late as yesterday.

But after working on and reviewing their papers, under the watchful eye of a civil servant from the Justice Ministry, the delegations arrived at a formula which, for the time being, satisfies everyone. From last night the bill provides for an amnesty for people who committed offenses—quote—at the time when the status of New Caledonia was being determined, but excluding people who have committed murder. Moreover at the discussion table they would rather talk about a wide-ranging pardon than an amnesty. It's a matter of nuance.

[Announcer] Of course, everyone is pleased with the outcome of this nocturnal marathon. For RPCR representative Dick Ukeiwe it is a historic moment and we must see to it that New Caledonia is an image of France in the region. FLNKS leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou considers it a great victory for the New Caledonians, and he said that in the next 10 years the separatists will have a lot to explain to win the referendum to be held in 1998. It is in a way a challenge, Mr Tjibaou said. Lastly, as far as Minister Louis Le Penec is concerned, this agreement is an almost un hoped-for event, given the situation that prevailed in New Caledonia only 3 months ago, and it constitutes a great hope for the territory.

FLNKS Leader Comments

LD2008223788 Paris Domestic Service in French
1700 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] For Jean-Marie Tjibaou, who this afternoon announced a FLNKS [Kanaks Socialist National Liberation Front] convention 2 to 3 September, the objective of the agreement is genuine independence, contrary to what some may think. He will set up a supervision structure to check on the implementation of this morning's agreement:

[Begin Tjibaou recording] Some asked the question: There is a lot of money involved, have you not sold your Kanak independence to the Socialists? Were you not bought? [words indistinct] The objective is that the situation improve, (that is) to provide the country with means regarding infrastructure, personnel with an increasingly autonomous economy while still building independence. I think that the government and the RPCR [Rally for Caledonia in the Republic] have understood this fully well even if they count on the fact that we will be so very well off that we will give up independence. Herein lies independence. [end recording]

The statement was recorded by Corinne Thebault. Prime Minister Michel Rocard will be in New Caledonia next Friday.

FLNKS Chairman Condemns Signing

LD2008124388 Paris Domestic Service in French
1100 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] There has been a negative reaction in Noumea [to the signing of the accord on New Caledonia] from Yann Celene Uregei, chairman of the Kanaks Socialist National Liberation Front [FLNKS] Political Bureau. I condemn the signing of this accord, he said, because it is not in accordance with the decisions made at the FLNKS convention in Ouvea.

Palau

President of U.S. Trust Territory Shot Dead

BK2008134388 Hong Kong AFP in English 1333 GMT
20 Aug 88

[Text] Koror, Palau, Aug 20 (AFP)—The president of the U.S. Pacific trust territory of Palau, Lazarus Salii, was shot dead by a gunman who burst into his home, police here said, but a presidential spokesman said he was not ruling out a suicide.

Police said Mr. Salii, 54, was shot once in the head in the living room of his home in this capital city. The president was said to have been alone at the time of the shooting. No arrests have been made.

Presidential spokesman Bonifacio Basilius, asked whether the president's death was a homicide or a suicide, replied: "We're not ruling out anything."

He said a .357-caliber Magnum revolver and a spent bullet were found at Mr. Salii's home and added that neighbors were being questioned [about] the president.

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DATE FILMED

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